

# **Bits & Chips**

**of the Gateway Computer Club**

**VOLUME 10**

**1993**

**No. 01-12**

# ***Bits & Chips***

## ***of the Gateway Computer Club***

Volume 10

January 1993

Number 1

### **President's Page**

by Jaunita Welker

I Would like to start the new year with Big Thank You's to a lot of dedicated people. The top of the list is President Earl Salmons for a job well done. Second on my list is Editor Larry Briggs. Its though his efforts that we all have a newsletter every month. Thanks go out to Dan Deutschmann for the time and effort given to the club. Thanks to our Secretary John Hubbard. Thanks to Everett Truttmann for all of his help. Thanks to Jim Tomlinson, Ken Jeffress, and Ken Welker for all of their assistance in putting together the DOMs this past year.

As you can see it takes members helping members to keep this club going strong.

This is a new year and I hope will mark the begining of better ideas and things for our club. With the help of Mike Taphorn, Vice-President elect I am hoping for a year of renewed interest in the club from not only the existing members but new members.

I promise to do the very best I can to make this a reality.

The club needs a Treasurer. Right now Mike Taphorn is handling the duties of this office but as of the January meeting he will have to assume the duties of the Vice-Presidency and from all indications he will be very busy. I am asking for one member to give a little of his or her time and make the deposit for the club and also keep track of its income and expenses. Surely one of you could help out.

January is the month that new officers are installed and the Robert Suarez Memorial Award is given to the member who has deemed to be an outstanding member for the past year.

The Board and I have some ideas, one of which is to sit at tables hopefully in a tee or rectangle form so that we all might feel more involved during our meetings. I also would like to take this opportunity to state for the record that we welcome computers at our regular meetings. This is a way for our members to avail themselves of the disks contained in the clubs library.

It also is a way to bring a problem program to a meeting and get help. Thats the main purpose of this club is to help each other with problems and sharing of ideas.

SEE YOU AT THE JANUARY MEETING.

### **Editor's Notes**

By Larry Briggs

A new year, and I hope a happy and prosperous one for all. Let this be the year that the Gateway Computer club grows to a larger membership. With a little help from members, we can make this happen, Just think, if each member brought in one new prospect, we would be almost one hundred strong again, I'm sure with all the new computers that were bought last Christmas, there will be a lot of owners that will be looking for help. Bring in one, two or more and you might win a one year free membership.

We want to thank Earl Salmons, the outgoing President for a job well done, he has served on the board for a long time, a lot longer then I can remember and he deserves a rest. I am sorry to see Dan Deutschmann leave the club. Let's hope that he will reconsider and will come back to the fold, how about it Dan?

Due to the lack of sales of the C64 DOM'S, and no one to put one together we will no longer offer them for sale. The Amiga and MS-DOS DOM's will continue as usual.

Jaunita Welker our new president has a plan to have demonstrations put on by computer stores and/or software companys. I have talked to Plato Computer and they are willing to demonstrate the new Amiga A4000 at the March meeting, later they will demo the A1200 and a MS-DOS clone. They will also demo. a program of our choice, so lets think about it and let me know the title of the program you would like to see. It would be nice if you could bring a friend to the meeting so we could show some force, it would encourage them to return again. I do hope that no one leaves the show while the demo is on as that would embarrass the club.

The Christmas party was a huge success, more food then we could eat, I tried!!! Jim brought Christmas songs and played them on the Amiga, great sounds.

# Reports

## The Club

The Gateway Computer Club is a not for profit organization of like-minded computer users. Membership fee is \$15.00 per year. Members receive access to the club's public domain library, educational programs, literature and monthly Bits & Chips Newsletter.

Direct all membership applications and questions to the Gateway Computer Club c/o P.O.Box 1839, Fairview Heights, IL 62206.

Only public domain programs are kept in the G.C.C. library. Reproduction of copyrighted software is not promoted nor condoned by the G.C.C. and will not be tolerated at club functions.

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## Membership Report

Mike Taphorn

As of January, 20th-1992 we have 43 active members in our club..

Lets all give a big welcome to new/old members (None)

THANKS AGAIN for continuing their memberships with us. Marvin Hirschman.

I would like to inform these members: that their membership will expire this Coming meeting. Ted Hartman, Joel Hillyard, Donald Koenig, Dick Koeper, Ken Stuckwisch, and Laura Blackwell.

These Members will be dropped as they have not renewed their membership. Gary Donaldson, Art Koenig, and Emmett Salmonds. Nathan Price

If you have any questions about your membership, See one of the board members at the meeting.

## The Officers

PRES: Juanita Welker.....234-5901

V.P.: Mike Taphorn.....345-2197

SEC: John Hubbard.....345-1934

TRES: Mike Taphorn.....345-2197

EDITOR: Larry Briggs.....345-0220

MAL: Bill Broda.....533-0148

MAL: Jim Tomlinson.....624-3872

MAL: Inge Liggett.....344-0839

LIBR: NONE\_\_\_\_\_

ASST.LIBR.(AMIGA)..... Jim Tomlinson

ASST.LIBR.(Ms-DOS).....Ken Welker

## Treasurer's Report

By Mike Taphorn

Balance Dec , 1992 ..... \$700.90

I D.O.M. Sales.Amiga.....\$ 14.00

N D.O.M. Sales.IBM.....\$ 8.00

C D.O.M. Sales.64/128.....\$ 2.00

O Blank Disks.....3.5.....\$ 27.00

M Blank Disks.....5.25.....\$ 0.00

E Membership.....\$ 15.00

50/50 Raffle.....\$ 0.00

MISC.....\$ 0.16

Dec, INCOME.....\$66.16

E NEWS LETTER.....\$ 36.10

X POSTAGE.....\$ 11.60

P PLAQUE.....\$ 26.03

E XMAS EXPENSE.....\$ 50.00

N

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Dec., EXPENSES.....\$ 123.73

CURRENT BALANCE

January , 1993.....\$643.33

## Amiga D.O.M. Jan. 93

by Jim Tomlinson

**Boulder** - Little Boulder is caught within a horrible nightmare. He has to escape from all eight caves of Diamond's land. All exits remain closed until he has collected all diamonds hidden in the caves, but unfortunately guarded by the cruel Diamond Guards. He hopes to find his own world after the exit of the last cave. Guide him through Diamond's land by Joystick in port two!

**CyberNetix** - A fun game.

**DeliTracker** - DeliTracker is a soundplayer, which supports several soundformats. SoundTracker 15 inst., SoundTracker 31 inst., NoiseTracker, ProTracker, StarTrekker without AM sounds and CustomPlay are internal players. Additional Players are loaded from disk. This means that you can very easily add/update players by placing them into the DeliPlayers directory. DeliTracker is NOT a Songeditor, MIDIsequencer or Digitizer. It is only thought to play music modules in a comfortable way.

**DiskInfo** - DiskInfo is a tool which can be used to display information about any Amiga storage media, including disks, hard disks and memory. It is capable of creating global environmental variables which can be used by any AmigaDOS or ARexx script. It can be executed as an AmigaDOS command from either the Workbench or the Shell.

**DropMenu** - DropMenu is a little commodity which gives the Amiga drop-down menus, similar to those common on the IBM PC. After running DropMenu, the first right mouse button click makes the menu bar appear. The second right mouse button click turns off the menu bar.

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## MS-DOS D.O.M. Jan. 93

Ken Welker

JANUARY IBM D.O.M.

### NOTE:

Due to some members not having 1.44 meg floppy drives, I will make future D.O.M.'S on 720k diskettes only.

### ANADISK:

A utility for examining, editing, and analyzing diskettes and hard drives.

### JMAN:

The game of JUMPMAN.

### 1PTOMB:

The game of PHARAOH'S TOMB.

### VACATION:

(VP) A vacation planner. It figures distances and prints maps. This program can be run from floppy disk or hard drive. Run VP-DOC.COM, MM-DOC.COM, and EASY-DOC.COM for instructions.

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## Notice Notice

I, Larry Briggs as Editor of the Bits & Chips, will be taking a vacation in Florida for the whole month of February. I will not be able to have a newsletter for you that month. Please check the expiration date on your membership cards as some will come due in February, so take this notice as a reminder and pay your dues to stay current, we do not want to lose you as members as they are hard to come by.

I will be thinking of all of you when I am sunning myself on beach in the hot sun while you are trying to dodge the snow balls.

We need a membership chairman and a Treasurer. Please someone VOLUNTEER.. ED.

## MINUTES

By John Hubbard

12/15/92

The President opened the meeting at 7:18pm.

The minutes from last meeting was accepted.

**New Business:** Board members get a free DOM (disk of the month)

**Old Business:** WOW.....I MEAN.....WOW what a Christmas party we had,

fun and food every where, if you did not come you missed out.

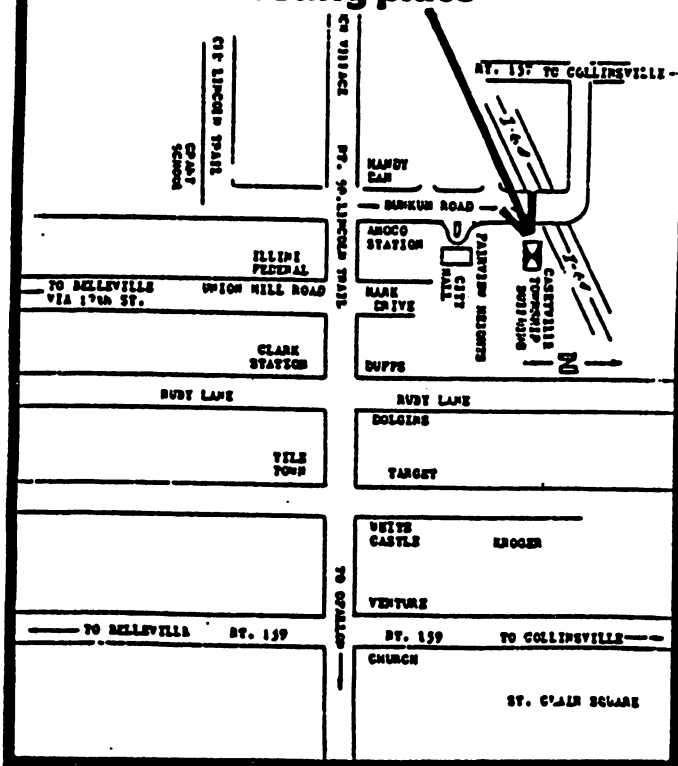
**Demo's:** We have some very good demo's coming up so be at every meeting.

Demo Committee STILL needs help, see Bill Broda, bashful people can help to, be the FIRST to stand up and say I will get INVOLVED.

The President closed the Business meeting at 7:25pm.



## Gateway Computer Club meeting place



## GCC Directory

### Next Meeting:

January 20th, 1993 7:00pm

### Next Exec. Bd. Meeting:

February 3rd, 1993 7:pm  
at the WESTERN SIZZLIN  
Fairview Heights, IL

### Next Copy Session:

at all Regular Meetings

### Visitors Always Welcome

### At Meetings

Meetings are held the third Wednesday of every month at the Caseyville Township Hall, 10010 Bunkum Road in Fairview Heights



**GATEWAY COMPUTER CLUB**  
**P.O. Box 1839**  
**Fairview Heights, IL 62208**

**Check your dues date!**

# First Class

# ***Bits & Chips***

## ***of the Gateway Computer Club***

Volume 10

February 1993

Number 2

### **President's Page**

by Jaunita Welker

#### **VIEW FROM THE TOP**

My congratulations go to Earl Salmons on being the recipient of the 1992 Robert Suarez Memorial Award. I truly believe he is most deserving of this award.

I would like everyone in the club to become familiar with the following Company, Virtual Reality Laboratories, Inc. located in San Luis Obispo, California. I wrote to them and asked for material to present to the membership during a demo and they responded in a most positive way. We will have for our February demo a short video and two program disks. They include computer generated landscapes and demo programs of VistaPro and Distant Suns. We all have different interests when it comes to the purchasing and usage of programs. These programs meet the needs of those interested in various computer generated landscapes and computer generated skies. They are very interesting. I would urge all of you to remember Virtual Reality Laboratories Inc if in need for these types of programs. I would like to thank them for their support for our club in supplying these items.

This article is being written before the January meeting so I am hoping that we have a new Treasurer.

My thanks to Carlos Mariles for helping with installation of Officers for the 1993 term. We hopefully will have some pictures to share with the membership at the February meeting.

I am receiving some response to the letters that I sent to various Companies and I would hope that our members will respond in a positive way by purchasing products from these Companies.

By now Larry Briggs should be soaking up the rays in sunny Florida. He better watch the rays closer than the suits or he will get burned.

If any of our members have a program or an interest they would like to share with the membership let me know. We are always looking for new ideas and items to share. If you do not want to demo the item then let me know and I will have one of the MAL's get with you and figure out a way to have someone else do it for you. We are willing to work to present the best programs every month we can.

In closing I hope every one remembered Valentines Day and didn't get to much candy.

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### **Editor's Notes**

By Larry Briggs

Even though I will be gone the whole month of February I went to press early and got this newsletter to you. As I write this I do not know if I can get all of the information to fill up the letter, I will do the best as I can.

I received an issue of Amazing Amiga Magazine today and in it they state that Commodore is having another *power up program* whereby they are lowering the prices of the Amiga A1200 and A4000 until March 31st, 1993, you do not even have to have a trade in.

I just got a new toy, a full page Scanner, it is a Migraph "Wand". I will be able to demo it when I get back from Florida. Hopefully the Amiga A500 the club has will have enough memory for it to run properly. I also have a new program called OCR (Optical Character Recognition) that will recognize caricatures that have been hand scanned, then transferred to a word processor as an IFF file and be edited as needed. So I can scan an article in a magazine, or a hard copy of an article from a club member, edit it and use it in our newsletter. I have not had time to try it yet, I hope I can make it work, I'll let you know.

Remember that the February meeting demo's will be Vista Pro and Distant Suns. The Vista Pro demo will be a video, and Distant Suns on the computer.

# Reports

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## Membership Report

Larry Briggs

As of February 20th-1993 we have 43 active members in our club..

Lets all give a big welcome to new member Diego Cardenas

THANKS AGAIN for continuing their memberships with us. Nathen Price, and Donald Koenig

I would like to inform these members: that their membership will expire this Coming meeting. Laura Blackwell, Loel Hillyard, and Ken Stuckwisch.

These Members will be dropped as they have not renewed their membership. NONE

If you have any questions about your membership, See one of the board members at the meeting.

## The Officers

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ASST LIBR: (Amiga).....Jim Tomlinson  
ASST LIBR: (MS-DOS).....Ken Welker  
MEMBERSHIP: Larry Briggs.....345-0220  
LIBR: NONE AS YET.....

## Treasurer's Report

By Mike Taphorn

Balance JAN , 1993 ..... \$643.33

I D.O.M. Sales.Amiga.....\$ 14.00  
N D.O.M. Sales.IBM.....\$ 10.00  
C O Blank Disks.....3.5.....\$ 3.00  
M Blank Disks.....5.25.....\$ 1.00  
E Membership.....\$ 45.00  
50/50 Raffle.....\$ 0.00

Jan, INCOME.....\$ 73.00

E NEWS LETTER.....\$ 21.50  
X POSTAGE.....\$ 17.40  
P CASEYVILLE TOWNSHIP.....\$ 50.00  
E POST OFFICE BOX.....\$ 46.50  
N CARLOS MARILES.....\$ 1.50

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JAN, EXPENSES.....\$ 136.90

CURRENT BALANCE

February ,1993.....\$579.43

## Amiga D.O.M. FEB. 93

by Jim Tomlinson

**BaudBandit** - The BaudBandit is a replacement for the original serial.device allowing you to drive your serial port at baud rates up to 115200 Baud with a standard 68000 Processor in full multitasking. Without any doubt the BaudBandit can be called "a little revolution" within the telecommunication scene on the Commodore Amiga. See the full docs for installation.

**CFX** - CFX was written to enable the Amiga user to identify certain characteristics of given files. The file, let's call it 'TEST', is a file that you received from a BBS, but there were no accompanying docs with it. The file is executable, but you have a feeling that it is crunched.

PowerPacker doesn't know this file's 'crunch' type, so you can't easily identify the filetype. This program attempts to let you know if it is crunched, and most possibly, what it is crunched with.

**DPU** - DPU is a program, which enables you to get information about the physical contents of your disks and diskfiles. Furthermore you can change these contents. Care must be taken as this program can cause irreparable damage on a disk.

**MegaD** - Here is another disk directory utility that claims to be the best in the world for Amiga.

**NW** - Nuclear War is a game for 2-14 players. This is a game of diplomacy and skill. If you can get the other countries to fight with each other, you might just survive World War III intact! Of course, the reason it is called "World War" is that the whole world will probably get drawn into the fight!

## MS-DOS D.O.M. FEB. 93

Ken Welker

### FEBRUARY IBM DOM

**800K** - Format a 720k disk to 800k for more storage.

**BIO** - A Bio rythm program for the IBM.

**COOKIE** - Fortune cookie sayings.

**GVMTBBS** - Federal government bulletin board numbers.

**ZM - PKZIP** program for windows.

**SAVER** - A screen saver program for windows.

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## MINUTES

By John Hubbard

The President called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm. President Salmons welcomed the new president, Jaunita Welker, who then presided over the meeting.

All new officers were installed, sworn in by Carlos Mariles, Photo session was held.

The minutes and the treasurer's reports published in the Bits & Chips were accepted as noted.

Please bring a friend to the next meeting as there will be a good demo.

The president closed the business meeting at 7:55pm

A round table discussion was then held and a very good amount of information was shared . This type of forum is intended to continue.

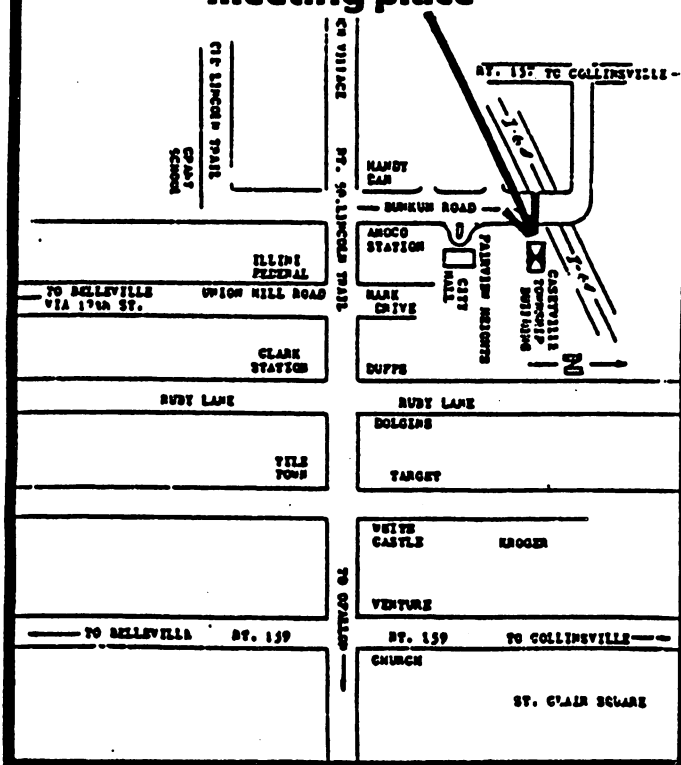
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## CONGRATULATIONS TO E. SALMONS

The Gateway Computer Club bestowed its highest honor, THE ROBERT SUAREZ MEMORIAL AWARD, to Earl Salmons. Earl has been a member for nine years and has held various offices including the office of President for three terms. He was instrumental in acquiring our present meeting facilities. He has been an active and involved participating member of our club. Congratulations to you Earl.

Thanks for a job well done.

## Gateway Computer Club meeting place



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### Next Meeting:

FEBRUARY 17th 1993 at 7:00pm

### Next Exec. Bd. Meeting:

March 3rd 1993 at 7:00pm  
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Fairview Heights,

### Next Copy Session:

At all Regular meetings  
Bring your Computer.

### Visitors Always Welcome

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# First Class

# ***Bits & Chips***

## ***of the Gateway Computer Club***

Volume 10

March 1993

Number 3

### **President's Page**

by Jaunita Welker

#### **VIEW FROM THE TOP**

By Juanita Welker, President

We had a good demonstration at our February meeting. Again thanks to Virtual Reality Laboratories, Inc. for their supplying the video and demo disks. Thanks to Ken Welker, Mike Taphorn and Jim Tomlinson for helping with the demo.

Mike Taphorn will be taking my place at the March meeting as I will be unable to attend.

We will not have Plato Computer at the March meeting. I have received a Demo video from Commodore Business Machines, Inc. and also have received some information about the 4000 and 1200 purchasing programs they are offering the Users Groups. The video is called Multimedia Times Four. I do hope to have a good turn out for this video.

There was some interest in creating videos of a member using their favorite program. Who wants to be first to volunteer to help with this project. Also I think it would be a great idea just to tape some of the members computer set ups. We are all interested in the equipment and maybe we will see a more efficient way of utilization of it.

I would like to revise our club flyer (to be handed out &/or given to stores for distribution). I wonder if any of our members would like to make up a design and submit it to the Board. Better yet lets make it a contest. Winner gets a free DOM or 2 blank disks. Submit on disk or paper to any board member.

Ken Welker has offered to be the Clubs Treasurer for this year. I want to thank him for volunteering.

There was a discussion about various money making projects we could get involved in. Among those discussed was taking part in the Collinsville Side Walk Sale this Summer. A sign up sheet was set out and we only had three members sign up. We really need more than three to man a booth for two days. There will be another sheet put out at the March meeting. If we do

not get enough of a response than I think that the club should not participate.

Ken & I went to the College of DuPage Computer Central show on February 28, 1993. It was a good show. A lot of Public domain and regular software for sale. Also a lot of equipment, boards and various other items for sale at reasonable prices. It was worth the drive to the Chicago area.

Remember the night of our March Meeting we are all a little Irish and do be wear'n a little of the green.

---

### **Editor's Notes**

By Larry Briggs

Here I am back from Florida all in one piece. I had a good time even though the weather was not all that good. Took a Ship tour to Nassau, that was nice, also took in Epcot center and Cypress Gardens. I had to run real hard to get home ahead of the last big snow storm, beat it by about 6 hours.

Now for the good news. This month's news letter is printed on my new HP Laserjet IIP plus Printer. I have wanted one for a long time, This is a fantastic printer. The front page of the news letter printed on the Panasonic 24 pin in 300dpi took 13 minutes, the HP IIP takes 1 min 32 sec. but 1 min.5 sec. was for the computer to compose the page in memory. This is because the page is configured as a Graphic. A page of text starts to print almost immediately, as the fonts are already in the printer ready to go. Everyone should have one of these printers.

I tried my best to get PLATO COMPUTERS to demonstrate Commodore's A 1200 computer at the march meeting but they told me that they were too busy and could not send anyone this month, perhaps later..

Juanita has contacted many hardware and software company's and will have some products to demo at the next few meetings.

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Larry Briggs

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Lets all give a big welcome to new member . None.

THANKS AGAIN for continuing their memberships with us. Emmett Salmons, John Hubbard, Inge Liggett, and Carlos Mariles.

I would like to inform these members that their membership will expire this Coming meeting. Dan Deutschmann, Arlene Nordmann, Lester Germann, Sam Hall, Bill Jacks, Ira Pollack, Sandra Johnson, John Urbas, and Priscilla Rodriques.

These Members will be dropped as they have not renewed their membership. Laura Blackwell, Joel Hillyard, and Ken Stuckwisch.

If you have any questions about your membership, See Larry Briggs at the meeting, or call 345-0220.

Thank You..

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E 50/50 Raffle.....\$ 7.00

FEB, INCOME.....\$

E NEWS LETTER.....\$ 21.50

X POSTAGE.....\$ 17.40

P MAILING LABELS.....\$ 12.96

E BLANK DISKS.....\$232.75

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FEB., EXPENSES.....\$ 284.61

CURRENT BALANCE

AS OF MARCH ,1st 1993.....\$379.62



**For Release:** Immediate

**Contact:** Commodore Business Machines, Inc.  
Mona Astra Liss  
(215) 431-9485  
Amanda K. Griffies  
(215) 431-9354

## COMMODORE® ANNOUNCES "POWER UP" SAVINGS PROGRAM FOR THE AMIGA® 4000 AND 1200

(West Chester, PA ---- December 14, 1992) --- Commodore Business Machines, Inc. today announced that the company's newest and most technologically advanced systems, the Amiga 4000 and the Amiga 1200, will be available at major cost-savings through its "Power Up" program. This offer begins January 1, 1993 and runs through March 31, 1993.

The Amiga 4000-25/120 plus ASDG Art Department Professional™ and Electronic Arts DeluxePaint IV™ AGA will be available for an MSRP of \$2693, a savings of \$1500 (if these items are sold separately). The A4000 was introduced in September, 1992 as Commodore's premier multimedia computer.

The Amiga 1200 plus SoftWood Inc.'s Final Copy 1.3™ and Electronic Arts DeluxePaint IV AGA, will be available at an MSRP of \$599, a savings of \$600. Both the A4000 and the A1200 feature Commodore's new Advanced Graphics Architecture™ (AGA) chip set that enables users to display and animate graphics in multiple resolutions at up to 256,000 colors from a palette of 16.8 million colors.

Important to note is that the "Power Up" software programs listed with the A4000 and the A1200 are not packaged with the systems. Customers will receive these software packages within 30 days, at no additional cost, directly from Commodore after receipt of proof of purchase and a completed CPU Warranty Card. All "power-up" software offers are designed to support the (AGA) chip set design.

Commodore Business Machines, Inc.

1200 Wilson Drive

PA 19380

Telephone

(215) 431-9100

Facsimile

(215) 431-9465

--- more ---



## **COMMODORE "POWER UP" PROGRAM**

**Page 2**

The A4000 comes standard with a 120MB hard drive, 6MB of memory, a dual speed high-density floppy drive, and CrossDOS software which enables users to read and write to MS-DOS formatted floppy and hard drives. The A1200, the lower cost, entry level member of the AGA based family, is the company's newest 32-bit personal computer. Other features include a low-profile design, CrossDOS and PCMCIA expandability.

"Since their introduction, both the A4000 and the A1200 have been widely publicized as the newest standard setters for video and multimedia users. Now through the "Power Up" program, these Amiga systems are being offered at substantial savings. This program is an excellent opportunity for multimedia users to purchase outstanding Amiga equipment at competitive prices," commented David Archambault, director of business marketing.

Commodore Business Machines, Inc., based in West Chester, PA, is the U.S. subsidiary of Commodore International. The company manufactures and markets a complete line of Amiga computers and peripherals for the business, consumer, education and government markets.

Commodore® is a trademark of Commodore Electronics Limited. Amiga® and Advanced Graphics Architecture are trademarks of Commodore-Amiga, Inc. MS-DOS® is a trademark of Microsoft Corporation. Art Department Professional is a trademark of ASDG. DeluxePaint IV is a trademark of Electronic Arts. Final Copy 1.3 is a trademark of SoftWood Inc.

**###**

## Amiga D.O.M. MAR. 93

by Jim Tomlinson

**DISK UTE** - The Disk Ute is a multitasking copier/formatter written with ease of use and speed in mind. The program supports high density Amiga disks and works happily on an A4000/3000/1200/2000/600/500. It requires Workbench 2.0x upwards.

**PORTFOLIO** - A neat multi-function management system that includes a disk cataloging system and calender function.

**PRETTYPRINT** - PrettyPrint is the most recent masterpiece : it helps you to print files in many different ways : on two parallel columns, with file information on top of each page, with line numbers, as an hexadecimal dump, ... make great use of printer's abilities, theoretically works on any preference supported printer (tested with STAR LC-10 and STAR laser printers) and print exactly the number of lines your printer is able to print (looking in your preferences to find this information).

**PREVENTDELETE** - A neat program for anyone with a modem; it prevents someone from "accidentally" formatting your hard drive or erasing a your files!

**PROKER** - PROKER is the Poker game you'll want to play and LEARN from no matter what skill level your at. Among many features you can even change the rules at will, even have the computer tell you what cards to discard for a MAXIMUM chance of winning.

**VIRUSCHECKER** - The latest version of a great virus hunter/killer!

**ZIP** - Zip is a compression and file packaging utility for the Amiga. It is analogous to a combination of the UNIX commands tar(1) and compress(1) and is compatible with PKZIP (Phil Katz's ZIP for MSDOS systems).

---

## MS-DOS D.O.M. MAR. 93

Ken Welker

**PINBALL** - The game of Pinball- 4 levels of fun.

**DEPROTECT** - A menu driven copy protection

removal program.  
file for intructions.

Read the README.DOC

**DGLABEL** - A great label making program .  
See DGLABEL.HLP for intructions.

**BJACK** - A talking version for the game of Blackjack.

---

## MINUTES

By John Hubbard

The President called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

We need someone to set up the club's AMIGA 500 each meeting night. If everyone takes a turn, it wont be a burden on the same people all the time. It is a pain to have to go and get it each meeting with the same people. I know it is a nasty word but we HAVE TO HAVE SOME VOLUNTEERS. It won't take long so come on and get on the band wagon everyone and help a little.

### FUN TIME--

You have not had fun if you have not worked in a food booth at the downtown Collinsville Sidewalk Sale. They are going to send us an application. This is an excellent opportunity for the club to make money for computers or any number of things for the club. It is usually the 2nd or 3rd weekend of July. I myself, have talked to them and they are excited about all the things going on BUT.....again we need to work as a team, So think about it, moore info.at next meeting night, do not miss it...

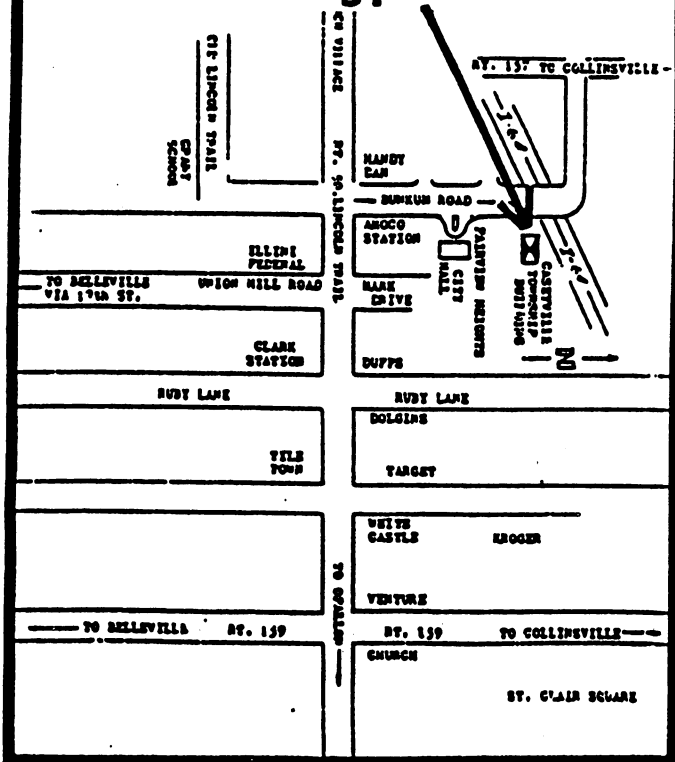
**MAGAZINES..** If you have any books or magazines you want to share with the club members, bring them on meeting night.

**DEMOS'..** If you missed the last meeting, you missed two good demos, there will be good demos every meeting. Don't miss this coming meeting.

**Problems..** Write it down and bring it with you to the meeting or bring your computer to the meeting, if we can't get you the answer to your question we will find the answer. That's what the club is here for.

The meeting was closed at 7:42pm by the President.

## Gateway Computer Club meeting place



# GCC Directory

## Next Meeting:

March 17th. 1993 7:00pm

## Next Exec. Bd. Meeting:

April 7th. 1993 7:00pm  
at the WESTERN SIZZLIN  
Fairview Heights Il

## Next Copy Session:

At all regular meetings

## Visitors Always Welcome

## At Meetings

**Meetings are held the third Wednesday of every month at the Caseyville Township Hall, 10010 Bunkum Road in Fairview Heights**



**GATEWAY COMPUTER CLUB**  
**P.O. Box 1839**  
**Fairview Heights, IL 62208**



## Check your dues date!

# First Class

# ***Bits & Chips***

## ***of the Gateway Computer Club***

Volume 10

April 1993

Number 4

### **President's Page**

by Jaunita Welker

#### **VIEW FROM THE TOP**

By Juanita Welker, President

The March meeting was well attended. I understand that Rich Collins Amiga 4000 generated so much interest that the scheduled demo was never shown. That is what your officers are working toward; interest and enthusiasm. Thanks Rich for sharing with the club.

My April schedule lists Larry Briggs demo of his full page scanner and also we have the demo tape from Commodore Business Machines. It should be an interesting meeting.

The Collinsville Sidewalk Sale project is starting to take shape.

We need information from any member who has access to a fryer or who knows anyone who has one we could borrow. I am getting information about the cost of rental of one.

We still are looking for a redesign for our club flyer. These will be printed and placed at any store willing distribute for us.

Would anyone like have a swap meeting &/or picnic this summer? It just an idea. If you would be interested in doing something like this and would like to head a committee of two let me know at the April meeting.

We also have received a demo tape from SAS. It looks like it might be interesting.

My thanks go to Mike Taphorn for chairing the March meeting and to all that helped make it a success.

---

### **Editor's Notes**

By Larry Briggs

We have a Librarian, John Hubbard has agreed to take on the added job as Librarian as well as Secretary. He will take care of the disk inventory and sell the disks of the month. If you bring your computer

to the club meetings, he will give you any disk in the library you desire (except DOM's less than one year old) for you to copy. You must show your membership card.

Commodore has announced that the Power up program has been extended until May 3rd 1993, on both the 4000/40 and the 1200 computers. Also they will have a new model the 4000/30 with 4 meg Mem. and 120 meg HD. The street price will be \$1850.00. I have been told by Plato computer that it is available now.

We all want to thank Rich Collins for bringing his new Amiga 4000 to the last meeting and demonstrated a program called VistaPro 2, It is a scene generator, and it does a fantastic job. but it takes time for it to render a scene, even on a fast machine like the Amiga 4000.

You may wonder why I do not write something about the 64/128, MS-DOS and Apple machines. It's because I do not own or use one, I am waiting for an article from a member that does. How long do I have to wait? I will mention however, MicroSoft has announced that the update for MS-DOS Version 5 has been upgraded to version 6. It has many new features, the most important is it compresses data so that it doubles the size of your hard drive. I watched the demonstration at Plato Computers, I did not understand most of it, so if you are interested, see your dealer. "I said that I could not write anything about the MS-DOS machine".

At the April meeting I will demonstrate my new Migraph full page scanner. Our A500 does not have enough memory, so John Hubbard has agreed to bring his exterior plugin memory board and hard drive. That is the trouble with the club's computer, it does not have enough memory to run the large programs. We should add more memory or sell this one and move up to the Amiga 1200. Page 4 of this month's Bits & Chips was scanned and a program called OCR (Optical Character Recognition) was used to take a three column article, make the necessary corrections in a word processor, flow the results into pageStream in two columns, I pasted the graphic.

# Reports

## The Club

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Direct all membership applications and questions to the Gateway Computer Club c/o P.O.Box 1839, Fairview Heights, IL 62206.

Only public domain programs are kept in the G.C.C. library. Reproduction of copyrighted software is not promoted nor condoned by the G.C.C. and will not be tolerated at club functions.

## Bits & Chips

Please direct all submissions and advertising to Editor Larry Briggs, 1021 Lafayette Ct. Collinsville, IL 62234. Camera ready advertising must be received by the first of the month to be included in the issue of the month.

Rates are as follows: Full page- \$15.00, Half page- \$7.50, Quarter page- \$3.75, and business card- \$10.00 for 6 months.

Contents of the Bits & Chips may be reprinted by other club newsletters if accompanied by the author's name and credit is given to the GATEWAY COMPUTER CLUB. The G.C.C. assumes no liability for errors in articles or advertisements.

## Membership Report Larry Briggs

As of April 21-1993 we have 39 active members in our club..

Lets all give a big welcome to new members. Norman Collins , Brian Goedelman and Leonard Moore.

THANKS AGAIN for continuing their memberships with us. John Hubbard, Carlos Mariles and Joel Hillyard.

I would like to inform these members that their membership will expire this Coming meeting. None.

These Members will be dropped as they have not renewed their membership. Dan Deutschmann, Arlene Nordmann, Sam Hall, Ira Pollock, Sandra Johnson, John Urbas, Lester Germann and Priscilla Rodriques.

If you have any questions about your membership, See Larry Briggs at the meeting, or call 345-0220.

## The Officers

PRES: Juanita Welker.....234-5901  
V.P.: Mike Taphorn.....345-2197  
SEC: John Hubbard.....345-1934  
TRES: Ken Welker.....234-5901  
EDITOR: Larry Briggs.....345-0220  
LIBR: John Hubbard.....345-1934  
MAL: Bill Broda.....533-0148  
MAL: Inge Liggett.....344-0839  
ASST LIBR: (AMIGA).....Jim Tomlinson  
ASST LIBR: (MS-DOS).....Ken Welker  
MEMBERSHIP: Larry Briggs.....345-0220

## Treasure's

### Report

By Ken Welker

Balance Mar , 1993 ..... \$379.62

I D.O.M. Sales.Amiga.....\$ 16.00  
N D.O.M. Sales.IBM.....\$ 14.00  
C Blank Disks.....3.5.....\$100.50  
O Blank Disks.....5.25.....\$ 0.00  
M Membership.....\$120.00  
E 50/50 Raffle.....\$ 6.00

Mar, INCOME.....\$256.50

E NEWS LETTER.....\$ 23.00  
X POSTAGE.....\$ 11.60

P  
E  
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S

Mar,. EXPENSES.....\$34.60

CURRENT BALANCE  
AS OF APRIL ,1st 1993.....\$601.52

## Amiga D.O.M. APR.. 93

by Jim Tomlinson

**COMPRESS DISK** - As its name probably suggests, it is an Exec device, similar in the way of operating to MS-DOS STACKER. Like that, in fact, it allows you to create virtual disks, whose tracks are saved on a file. Unlike that, however, it uses a different file for each track, and compresses the tracks. This allows you to create virtual partitions on your hard-disk, usable like normal partitions, but having the great advantage that every file you write is automatically compressed (and obviously, it is decompressed whenever you read it back).

**DR Dobbs** - Here is a set of programs suggested by an article in Dr Dobbs Journal. More for hackers than anyone else.

**File Storage** - File Storage is a file librarian, a database for files. The database exists of a number of index files (index files contain information about files in the collection) and disks where File Storage puts your collection of files. You can add files to the collection and File Storage will put it on a disk for you. File Storage 'remembers' how many free bytes each storage disk has and tries to fill the disks to the maximum.

**FixDisk** - FixDisk is a program to recover as much as possible from a defective disk. It can recover damaged (unreadable) tracks. It has functions to check file integrity, to check the directory structure and functions to undelete, copy or show (even defective) files and fix corrupted directory pointers. A damaged file structure can be recovered copying the data file by file to another disk (a la DiskSalv) or can be fixed in place (like Diskdoctor).

**NewList** - NewList is the ultimate 'ls' utility. Currently there are a 100 ls-type utilities out there. Unfortunately, they all lack something. If they had the power, then they lacked the speed, and vice versa. NewList fixes all of their inadequacies. Newlist has customization. Newlist has speed. NewList has power. The best of ls, the best of ddir, the best of list, and bunches of special features were all put into one small and efficient package.

**ParaBit** - **TAKE ADVANTAGE OF YOUR MODEM'S FULL-DUPLEX TRANSMISSION CAPABILITY!** The ParaBIT terminal currently allows you up to three simultaneous modes (upload, download and terminal/menus/text) of operation. Uploads and downloads operate over your modem at FULL speed.. so you are getting about TWICE as much done as you normally would in the same amount of time, perhaps more if you like to read and respond to messages which takes very little effort from your modem and any effect on ParaBIT up/downloads should be negligible.

## MS-DOS D.O.M. APR. 93

Ken Welker

**123-TALK** - The object of 123-TALK is to teach your child to say numbers, counting, addition, subtraction, and to interact with a computer. This is designed for the 1-4 year old. Also included in this program is 123 SONG for the 4-7 year old, and EASY DRAW II. This program is menu driven, see 123-TALK.DOC for instructions.

**ARTIC** - This is an adventure game. The object of the game is to get as many pick axes as needed to break the ice walls to get to the next level. You enter each cave from the Artic map screen. This game can be played from the keyboard or with a joystick. Create the directory ARTIC, then use PKUNZIP to unzip this file into that directory.

**DUKE** - The game of DUKE NUKEM. Your mission as Duke Nukem is to save the World by stopping Dr. Proton and his army of Robots. Create the directory DUKE, then use PKUNZIP to unzip this file into that directory.

---

### WANT TO BUY

A Commodore 64/128 ready printer or a printer with interface, prefer a Panasonic, but will take any printer at the right price.

Call Gerald Powers at 277-8081

---

### MINUTES

By John Hubbard

#### Regular Meeting March 1993.

The meeting opened at 7:00 pm. by Vice President Mike Taphorn.

There was a discussion about the Sidewalk sale this coming July. We need more members to sign up to make this venture successful. It will only take a few hours of your time. There is a sign up sheet at the regular meeting. Please sign up.

The meeting closed at 7:40 pm

Richard Collins then demonstrated a program on his new AMIGA 4000.

Larry Briggs will demo a Migraph full page Scanner, to scan and edit text. This is a new process for the Amiga. Should be interesting. .

# SURGE PROTECTED

Reprint from GAC FLAK

The following article was written by George Vestal, Editor of "The Hardcopy", The newsletter of CCR (Commodore Club of Rockford). It first appeared in March 1992, I am sure you will find it as interesting as I did. The Hardcopy is just one of the many interesting newsletters our club exchanges for copies of our own GAC Flak newsletter. See the editor for copies to read, Enjoy, Bob Scharp.

About a year ago I admonished all of you to be sure you were "surge protected," Since then I've come to the conclusion that most of us think we're protected but most likely are not. Judge for yourself.

1 December 1991 CQ magazine page 64, there is an article by Buck Rogers, K4ABT (settle down you Trekkies) in which he describes the aftermath of a lightning strike to his antennas. His wife called him at the office to tell him that various appliances at home were not working. He went home to be told that "The large screen TV worked but there was a bad order in your computer room."

Buck was met at his computer room door with the smell of burnt phenolic, resistors, integrated-circuits, and general scorched electronic component smell.

There were signs of soot or smoke all over the room, The ends of connectors were blown out of their sockets. Everything in the room seemed destroyed or trashed as well as other things in the house (Get this) EXCEPT devices that were plugged into 6 MOVs (Metal Oxide Varistors). An older 8088 PC survived. It was plugged into AC via an MOV. The Big Screen TV and the VCR were plugged into the same outlet. The TV had a MOV in line and was unharmed. The VCR had no MOV and it was trashed. Plugged into the same outlet as the surviving 8088 PC was a trashed 386 PC plugged into a so called surge protector power strip with its switch welded on by the hit. It must be remembered that electricity takes the path of least resistance.

I called my friend Ernie who is a service technician for a tele-communications company, to find out more about MOVs, He had one in his truck, a Trans-Arrestor 2AC15M. So I went out and bought an Econo-type Heavy Duty Surge Protector, and went over to Ernie's house and we opened them up to compare. Wow! No comparison. See for yourself. the Econo model has a .01mfd capacitor about the size of a shirt button the Trans-Arrestor has a 2.2mfd capacitor the size of a 9-volt battery. That's what, 220 times more up front protection! Thoughts like comparing William Perry (The Frige) to Pee Wee Herman for defensive lineman. Then there is 2 small 514 MOVs about the size of a dime as compared to 3-520 MOVs about the size of a quarter. I don't understand the numerical comparison, but I am told their surface size determines their effectiveness.

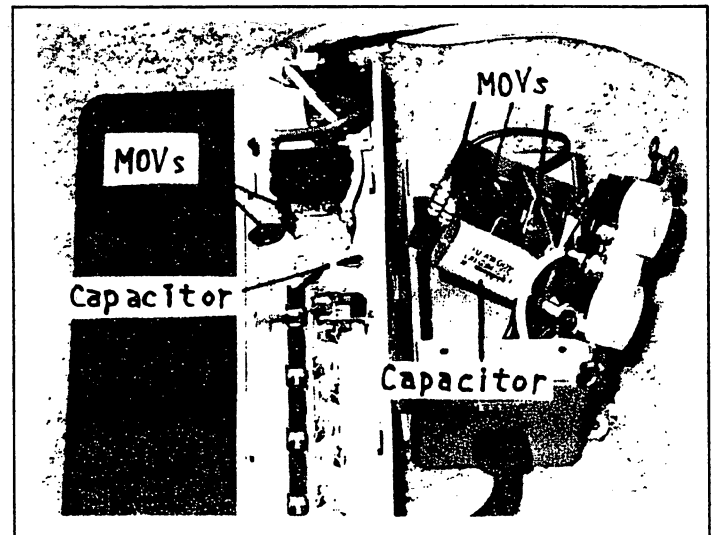
I'm also told that those impressive sounding specs

on surge protectors are bench specs, not done under load. The amount of noise filtration is directly related to the size of the capacitor and the amount of suppression is related to the size of the MOVs. So the key to the performance of the Trans-Arrestor is the 2.2mfd capacitor that sees everything first and will "grab" the first 400 volts and act as a buffer to the MOVs which are a little slow waking up, not really responding with the speed most specs claim they will. Also MOVs start to deteriorate just sitting on the shelf as well as from actual use, so after a few years use, your amount of actual protection is reduced. Combine this with noise and junk on the line during use, using some of the protection capacity, your actual protection left to stop a whopper coming down the line is further reduced.

None of the protectors that I know of are guaranteed to stop a direct lightning hit, but remember electricity takes the path of least resistance.

The Trans-Arrestor is built of non-flammable material and airtight to prevent the components from igniting from a big hit.

I don't know about you, but I'm going to get one and install it between my present surge protector? and AC source to be on the safe side. the Trans-Arrestor 2AC15M is not available from electronic supply houses I'm told, but can be ordered direct from New Horizons Marketing, 920 S Waukegan Rd, Lake Forest, IL 60045. Cost is \$49.95 + \$3.50 shipping. IL residents add 7% sales tax. Phone 1-800-234-5911 ext. 26 Att. Dough Bauer. VISA & MC accepted.



The above article is a reprint from the January 1993 GAC FLAK, Gateway Amiga Club, St Louis Mo.

Instead of copying the original and using it. I decided to scan it with a Migraph hand scanner and use OCR "Optical Character Recognition Software". It failed to recognize many words, it had trouble with the t,h and commas, also words that touched each other.

It took quite some time to clean up, and find words missed in the OCR program. The article was ported into ProWrite to be further edited. I hope I found all of the errors. I think I could have retyped the article faster. But this is more fun.

Larry Briggs Ed.

# IBM Unveils 40 New PCs In Bid To Regain Market

NEW YORK (AP) — IBM unveiled 40 new low-priced personal computer models on Tuesday, its first upgrade since entering the highly competitive "clone" business six months ago.

Analysts said the new PS-ValuePoint computers are central to International Business Machines Corp.'s bid to regain market share from the low-cost knockoffs of the computers IBM developed more than a decade ago.

IBM's PC business lost money in 1992, but sales have surged in recent months as the company competes aggressively in a price and performance war with rivals such as Compaq Computer Corp. and Dell Computer Corp.

IBM said the new ValuePoint models, priced from \$1,080 to \$3,579, offer enhanced graphics, truer colors, more power and a broad ability to upgrade. The new models are powered by a version of Intel Corp.'s 486 microprocessor and can be converted to Intel's new Pentium microprocessor.

"They're not ahead of anybody here. But IBM has to prove it can move at the velocity of the market," said Richard Zwetchkenbaum, a PC analyst with International Data Corp.

Zwetchkenbaum praised IBM's ability to upgrade the ValuePoints in six months. He said the new models allow IBM to "maintain the momentum they had been already building."

IBM's PC sales have soared, partly due to a cutthroat pricing war that obliterated profits. According to BIS Strategic Decisions in Norwell, Mass., IBM sold an estimated 1.4 million personal computer units in the fourth quarter. The company said its three-month PC sales were a record.

In recent days, IBM executives have said first-quarter personal computer sales rose at least 30 percent from a year earlier and predicted the business would be profitable in 1993.

IBM's share of the U.S. PC market of 11.4 million computers was 12.3 percent last year, down from 13.9 percent in 1991, according to International Data, a market research firm. IBM fell behind Apple Computer Co. as the U.S. market leader.

In September, IBM granted its personal computer operation more freedom, establishing it as a separate business.

IBM Personal Computer Co. quickly rolled out a series of new models, including the first ValuePoints and new PS-1 home and small-business computers, new high-end PS-2 models and new portables.

ValuePoint is critical to IBM's overall PC mission. Its \$7.9 billion personal computer business last year accounted for about 12 percent of company revenue.

"Our intent is to work very hard to listen to our customers ... and get back some of the share we lost in the days when we were trying to make one product fit every customer's needs," said Angelica Horaitis, a ValuePoint marketing executive.

ValuePoint is targeted for corporate and government customers that buy PCs in large numbers. But IBM wants to increase sales to others as well.

"Their value products are meant to expand IBM's presence in small businesses, home offices and the first-time buyers category," said Tim Bajarin, an analyst with Creative Strategies in Santa Clara, Calif.

**"IBM has to prove that they can move at the velocity of the market."**

**RICHARD  
ZWETCHKENBAUM, analyst,  
International Data Corp.**



[illegible]

**Meetings are held the third Wednesday of every month at the Caseyville Township Hall, 10010 Bunkum Road in Fairview Heights**



**Fairview Heights, IL 62208**



## Check your dues date!

# First Class

# ***Bits & Chips***

## ***of the Gateway Computer Club***

Volume 10

May 1993

Number 5

### **President's Page**

by Jaunita Welker

#### **VIEW FROM THE TOP**

The April meeting was very informative. Thanks to Larry Briggs for the demo of his full page scanner. It took a little longer for the clubs Amiga 500 to process the information he presented but the results were really interesting.

At the May meeting, Rich Koerper will show that the possibilities are endless for the physically disabled person with the help of computers.

He will be demonstrating the equipment that has helped enrich the daily lives of many of the disabled in our area. It should be very informative.

We are still looking for help with the Collinsville Sidewalk Sale booth. If we can't get the help we will not be able to participate and raise some money. If any of the clubs members has a way to raise some cash to upgrade the clubs equipment please let me know.

I did not get any response to the redesign of the clubs flyer. Certainly one of you has some ideas as to a redesign. Please either submit in print or on disk to me. We need to upgrade the flyer.

Would the membership like to host a swap meet? We could have it on either a Saturday or Sunday afternoon. Please give me some feed back.

I need the input.

We will finally get around to watching a couple of demo videos sent by Commodore Business Machines Inc. and SAS. These videos address both Amiga and DOS Programs. Hopefully June will be the month for viewing these programs. Also I have a demo copy of Word Perfect for Windows.

The Officers of the club will continue to try to have varied program demonstrations for the membership. If there is a particular program you would like to have demonstrated please let me know. We will try to accommodate you.

My thanks to all who help with the chairs and

tables at the meetings. It makes everyones job a little lighter when there are many hands to help.

Hopefully the rains will have stopped before our May meeting but if not maybe we all ought to buy boats to get around. I cannot remember a more rainy spring season than this season. Stay dry and see you at the May meeting.

---

### **Editor's Notes**

By Larry Briggs

Well Sportsfans, it looks like the club will not be participating in the Collinsville Street Fair this summer. The Board decided that there was not enough interest from the membership and the bulb of the work would be done by the board members. This is not acceptable, and should not be expected. The board felt that this would have been a good venture for the club, and would have made a lot of money to purchase new equipment. To make something like this work, there must be participation from everyone in the club. It is YOUR CLUB.

The club is loosing more members every month, Perhaps Carlos Mariles was right a couple of years ago when we opened the club up to Ms-DOS and Apple computers. He said that it might devide the club, and it has. It seems that the Commodore people are loosing interest and leaving the club. The c64 users lost support because the lack of software and demos, there are but a few left, most also have Amiga or Ms-DOS computers. If any one has any idea how we might entice new members to join, and hold on to the old members let the board know. We need your help.

I hear that Everett Truttman is out of the Hospital after his heart attack, and has been seen driving around town in his car. It will be nice to have his happy smiling face at the meetings again.

The executive board members are doing their best to make the meetings interesting, again, they need your help, volunteer to put on an demonstration, your favorite program or piece of equipment, come on lets be heard..

# Reports

## The Club

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V.P.: Mike Taphorn.....345-2197  
SEC: John Hubbard.....345-1934  
TRES: Ken Welker.....234-5901  
EDITOR: Larry Briggs.....345-0220  
LIBR: John Hubbard.....345-1934  
MAL: Bill Broda.....533-0148  
MAL: Inge Liggett.....344-0839  
ASST LIBR: (AMIGA).....Jim Tomlinson  
ASST LIBR: (MS-DOS).....Ken Welker  
MEMBERSHIP: Larry Briggs.....345-0220

## Bits & Chips

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## Membership Report Larry Briggs

As of May 1st.-1993 we have 39 active members in our club..

Lets all give a big welcome to new members. None..

THANKS AGAIN for continuing their memberships with us. NONE

I would like to inform these members that their membership will expire this Coming meeting. Betty Feigenbutz, James Eagen, Tom McDonald, Eula & Ted Schmidt, and Everett Truttmann.

These Members will be dropped as they have not renewed their membership. NONE

If you have any questions about your membership, See Larry Briggs at the meeting, or call 345-0220.

## Treasure's Report

By Ken Welker  
Balance APRIL 1, 1993.....\$379.62

I D.O.M. SALES.AMIGA.....\$ 4.00  
N D.O.M.SALES IBM.....\$ 20.00  
C BLANK DISKS 3.5.....\$ 77.50  
O BLANK DISKS 5.25.....\$ 8.00  
M MEMBERSHIP.....\$ 0.00  
E 50/50 RAFFLE.....\$ 6.00

APRIL INCOME.....\$256.50

E  
X  
P NEWS LETTER.....\$ 33.20  
E POSTAGE.....\$ 17.40  
N  
S  
E  
S

MAR. EXPENSES.....\$ 50.60

CURRENT BALANCE.....\$666.42  
AS OF MAY. 1, 1993

## Amiga D.O.M. MAY. 93

by Jim Tomlinson

**Dashboard** - The Dashboard is the combination of well known PerfMeter-alike utilities, clocks and RAM gauges. Its window can be opened on any public screen and displays: 1. Current time 2. Amounts of chip, fast and total memory. 4. CPU activity. 5. Graphs of these parameters. This is for AmigaDos 2.X and 3.0 only.

**DIGIllusions** - Digital Illusions is a digital picture manipulator that not only works with single frames; but can also be used for full animations.

**DiskCat** - DiskCat is the the disk cataloger I always wanted. The files can be organized any way you want. You can make and name any category you care to. Categories and files can be moved. By a menu selection all disks that are inserted are automatically searched and the useful information copied.

**MineSweeper** - For those of you who also have a PC clone, this game will be instantly recognizable. This version of minesweeper works best on a WB2.0 system, but is still playable on WB1.3.

**News!** - Here is a couple (OK so it's three!) electronic magazines. they are several weeks worth of a good "EMAG" called Amiga Report.

**PC-Task** - Even though the Amiga range of computers are excellent, the world PC market is still dominated by IBM PC's. So you might want to run some programs written for the IBM PC but don't want to buy another computer. This is where PC-Task comes in, it allows you to run the majority of IBM PC programs on your Amiga computer and hence make use of the memory and peripherals you already have. This is only a DEMO and is an upgrade to a previous disk.

**Virus-Checker** - It never fails. Just when you think your system is well protected, some kid in a third-world nation writes a virus that hits your computer like a lightning bolt. What are you left with? A quizical message in broken english and your hard-drive/boot-disk corrupted. That is where Virus-Checker comes in. This the latest version of this virus hunter/killer.

## MS-DOS D.O.M. MAY. 93

Ken Welker

### MAY IBM DOM

**DRAFT CHOICE** - A very nice CAD program, it has many of the features fond in the large expensive CAD programs. Print the file DC20.MAN for full documentation.

**RESUMAI** - Resume's come in all shapes, sizes, colors and formats with bells and whistles attached. This program will give you all the information and tools to create that "job-winning" resume.

---

## MINUTES

By John Hubbard

The President called the meeting to order at 7:03pm.

The minutes from the last meeting were accepted as printed in the BITS & CHIPS.

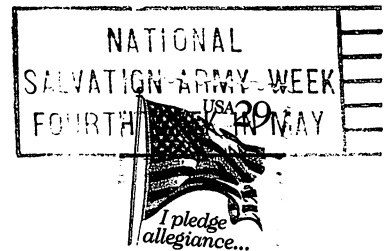
We still need help getting our club amiga 500 set up every meeting night. Also, to help return the chairs to the rack, at least the chair that you were using. We Need workers to work and have fun at Collinsville Sidewalk Sale this July, maybe 2nd weekend of July, sign up to have fun at this meeting. We need to form a food committee for the side walk sale. At the present time the fair is in jeopardy as we do not have enough people to man the booth. Please stand up and be counted.

Demo's, don't miss a meeting, we have good stuff coming up. Jim Tomlinson is bringing his Ms-DOS laptop to the next meeting to demo some software. If you have a program that you are having trouble with, bring it to the meeting and see if anyone can give you some help.

The board wishes a belated happy MOTHERS day, I'm sure that most mothers had a nice day as all the restaurants were full.

Lets all have a Happy and safe Memorial day.

Meeting was closed at 7:48pm.

[illegible]

# First Class

# ***Bits & Chips***

## ***of the Gateway Computer Club***

Volume 10

June 1993

Number 6

### **President's Page**

by Jaunita Welker

#### **View from the Top**

The month of June is upon us. Maybe we will get lots of sun for a change. This month will bring video demos from Commodore Business Machines and SAS. If you have a program problem, bring the program and we will see if we can help.

Due to lack of member participation we will not take part in the Collinsville sidewalk sale this year. At the last meeting we had a discussion about hosting a swap meet. More on that later.

Larry Briggs volunteered to upgrade the club's flyer. Thanks to him for his help.

There were not many Disks of the Month purchased this last month.

It makes it difficult to keep up the interest in making them if they are not purchased. Please support those members that volunteer to make up these DOM by purchasing them at the club meeting.

The library for the C64 was brought up and we will allow members who are interested to check out any public domain program disks we have. Please be sure to record in the note book what disks you have and return them promptly at the next meeting.

Glad to see Earl and Everett at the last meeting. We miss you. I hope every one had a good month and have managed to stay dry though out all the rainy weather we had.

See you at the meeting.

---

The office computer has a virus, so I hired my mother to type in her chicken soup recipe.

I've discovered that if you fool around with your television's contrast-and hold down the pause while you hit fast-forward on your VCR-you can put Geraldo's head on Oprah's body.

### **Editor's Notes**

By Larry Briggs

#### **Editors View June 93**

We had a very good demonstration by Richard Koerper at our last club meeting. Rich brought his Apple computer and all the hardware that he uses in his work. He teaches computer communication to the physical handicapped using all types of hardware. Watching his demonstration makes us that are not handicapped, feel very thankful.

It is gratifying to have a new face doing a demonstration, I'm sure that there are others in the club that can do the same. Rich's demo was something different, it was something you would not see unless you went to his place of work.

Jim Tomlinson also demonstrated a few programs on his MS-DOS laptop hooked to a regular monitor. I did not have a chance to see this demo, but I'm sure it was interesting.

There is an article on page 3 written by the editor, Bill Maddock of the Gateway Amiga Club In St Louis. It is a good article that is telling Commodore to wake up and smell the roses. Even Apple has started to sell their computers in local retail stores. I saw a line-up of Apple computers in Best and Circuit City stores in fairview Heights, they will be in other stores soon. Why can't Commodore do the same. That is how the C64 became a million plus seller, get them in stores where people can see them. Let the stores do the advertising for them. As it is very few people know what an Amiga is. When I tell someone I have an Amiga, I get a blank stare.

I'm still waiting for an article to print in the Bits & Chips from one of our members. I can not go on much longer as Editor without some help. So think about it, then start writing. I mean it...

No wonder people don't want to work anymore. Ed McMahon keeps telling them they've already won ten million dollars.

Kwik Kopy Printing-DINGBAT'S

# Reports

## The Club

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## Membership Report

Larry Briggs

As of June 1st.-1993 we have 39 active members in our club..

Lets all give a big welcome to new members. Bob Clark from Belleville IL.

THANKS AGAIN for continuing their memberships with us. Lester Gormann, Betty Feigenbutz, Everett Truttmann, and Eula & Ted Schmidt,

I would like to inform these members that their membership will expire this Coming meeting. Tom Clark, and Kenneth Jeffress.

These Members will be dropped as they have not renewed their membership. James Eagen and Tom McDonald

If you have any questions about your membership, See Larry Briggs at the meeting, or call 345-0220.

## The Officers

PRES: Juanita Welker.....234-5901  
V.P.: Mike Taphorn.....345-2197  
SEC: John Hubbard.....345-1934  
TRES: Ken Welker.....234-5901  
EDITOR: Larry Briggs.....345-0220  
LIBR: John Hubbard.....345-1934  
MAL: Bill Broda.....533-0148  
MAL: Inge Liggett.....344-0839  
ASST LIBR: (AMIGA).....Jim Tomlinson  
ASST LIBR: (MS-DOS).....Ken Welker  
MEMBERSHIP: Larry Briggs.....345-0220

## Treasure's Report

By Ken Welker

Balance May, 1, 1993.....\$666.92

I D.O.M. SALES.AMIGA.....\$ 4.00  
N D.O.M. SALES IBM.....\$ 0.00  
C BLANK DISKS 3.5.....\$ 6.00  
O BLANK DISKS 5.25.....\$ 0.00  
M MEMBERSHIP.....\$ 60.00  
E 50/50 RAFFLE.....\$ 7.50

MAY INCOME.....\$ 77.50

E  
X  
P NEWS LETTER.....\$ 20.95  
E POSTAGE.....\$ 11.60  
N  
S  
E  
S

MAY. EXPENSES.....\$ 32.55

CURRENT BALANCE.....\$711.87..  
AS OF June. 1, 1993

## Amiga D.O.M. JUNE. 93

by Jim Tomlinson

**Babylon** - This is the computer version of Abalone for WB2.0 or above. You can have 0 to 2 players. The object of the game is to push six of your opponents marbles off the board.

**CGFonts** - This is a set of outline fonts which can be used by Gold Disk's PPage, and when modified with System 2.X's SYS:SYSTEM/FOUNTAIN, workbench can utilize them as well. In order to be used by PPage, the .dat .metric and .lib files must be copied into the PPAGE/CGFONTS directory.

**Cheats.Guide** - This is a set of cheats and backdoors in AmigaGuide format. There is also an ARexx script for viewing the cheats if you have ARexx.

**DocDump** - DocDump provides a convenient format for printing four pages on one. Works with Epson FX compatible printers.

**News!** - Here are three more Amiga Report "EMAG"s.

---

## MS-DOS D.O.M. JUNE. 93

Ken Welker

### JUNE IBM DOM

**DRAFT CHOICE** - A very nice CAD program, it has many of the features found in the large expensive CAD programs. Print the file DC20.MAN for full documentation.

**RESUMAII** - Resume's come in all shapes, sizes, colors and formats with bells and whistles attached. This program will give you all the information and tools to create that "job-winning" resume.

---

## MINUTES

By John Hubbard

The President called the meeting to order at 7:00pm. The minutes from last meeting were accepted as printed in the Bits & Chips. The sidewalk sale in July was voted down at last meeting, we did not have the people to work, sorry. If you want to go to a swap-meet, there is one every third Sunday of the month, it is in Swansca at 2212 N. Ill street. Sounds good so, go over and try it. Fathers, have a nice Fathers Day, I think every one should take their fathers out to dinner, I know, I am a father and that is what I would like. What ever you do for your father on Fathers Day, tell

them you love them." Love is wonderful to share." and it's FREE.

For this meeting we need some T.V's for the demo. Please bring yours from home. We may be having our own Swap-Meet, it is being looked into by Larry Briggs, Thanks Larry. We still need help getting our A-500 out of the locker don't be bashful come on give us a hand. Thanks for replacing your chair after the meeting. The business meeting was closed at 7:33pm.

---

## Reprint from GACFLAK June/July93 Gateway Amiga Club, Inc.

By Bill Maddock, Editor

It was the best of times, it was the worst of times. Does it seem like Dickens was talking today? We live in times both promising and harrowing in the Amiga community. The new machines are selling well-especially the A1200. There are already quite a few hardware products available or crossing the threshold for the A1200. NewTek finally obeyed the video slot specs put out by Commodore years ago-so everyone with an Amiga and a video slot can install a Video Toaster without violating their warranty. Commodore and NewTek finally have put away the gloves and are actually working together to market their products (about time, too, since neither would be around without the other's product). There are even a few bright spots to be found in commercial software, such as SoftLogik's PageStream3 to be released soon which incorporate support for the AGA chipset. Commodore claims we will be shocked by the number of new products this year. For only \$600.00 I was able to purchase a machine capable of displaying graphics in what is essentially equivalent to 24 bit (in 640x400-in this resolution even true 24 bit can only display 256,000 colors). This is far and away better performance for your dollar than you can get with any other platform-even IBM compatibles.

And yet Commodore may be in deep trouble. With all the promising events happening this year there is an alarming lack of new software. As I said, there are bright spots. Many of these, though, are being ported over to IBM. Why buy an Amiga when you can do the same thing on an IBM?

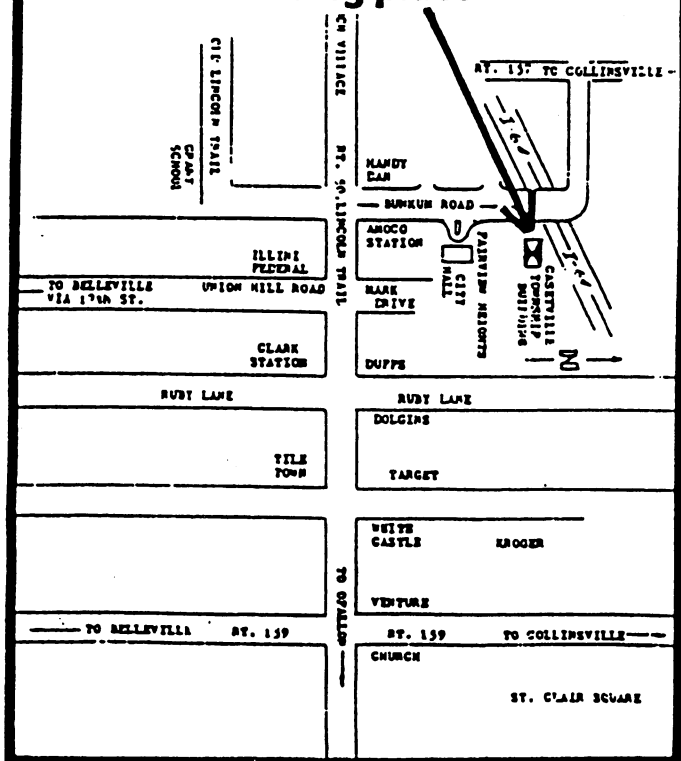
If Commodore wants to survive, if NewTek wants to survive, they must find a way to get companies like Lotus, WordPerfect, MicroSoft, Etc. to write for Amiga. Games are fun and can sell computers, but businesses want business software, not games. If businesses are to buy an Amiga, they'll want it to run "their" programs-Symphony, Word, 123, WordPerfect, etc.

To survive the long run, Amiga must make significant inroads into American businesses. To do this, they need business software.

Slightly edited, Ed.



## Gateway Computer Club meeting place



## GCC Directory

### Next Meeting:

June 16th 1993 7:00pm

### Next Exec. Bd. Meeting:

July 7th 1993 7:pm

At The Western Sizzlin

Fairview Heights Il

### Next Copy Session:

At all regular Meetings

### Visitors Always Welcome

### At Meetings

Meetings are held the third Wednesday of every month at the Caseyville Township Hall, 10010 Bunkum Road in Fairview Heights



**GATEWAY COMPUTER CLUB**

**P.O. Box 1839**

**Fairview Heights, IL 62208**



**Check your dues date!**

# First Class

# ***Bits & Chips***

## **of the Gateway Computer Club**

Volume 10

July 1993

Number 7

### **President's Page**

by Mike Taphorn

*Hello ...* This is Mike Taphorn, the former vice president of the club. I say former vice president because due to circumstances beyond my control I have been promoted from vice president to president of the computer club.

The last board meeting brought some distressing news... Juanita has resigned as president of the computer club. She will be greatly missed. She did a lot to help the club grow and prosper throughout the years. As president, she did a great job in bringing new demos and ideas to every meeting.

I have only written a few articles for the newsletter before and having to write this one came as a big surprise. I hope that I can fill the shoes of those who have gone before me.

O.K. where should I start...

#### ***Fred Fish Update***

At the last meeting, we talked about buying a CD-ROM drive as a way to obtain the Fred Fish Collection of public domain Amiga software. The board members decided that buying a subscription to Fred's Collection would be a better way to support Mr. Fish and would allow us to copy any of his disks using the club's existing A500 computer. The motion to buy a subscription was already passed at the May meeting so Jim Tomlinson our Amiga Librarian volunteered to order the subscription starting where our library currently ends.

#### ***New Name Tags***

Larry Briggs has printed name tags for all the members to use at each monthly meeting. He did this using his new laser printer and they really look nice. He has also volunteered to keep them between meeting so they don't get lost. Pick up your name tag from Larry when you get the meeting, and please return your name tags to him after every meeting so he can keep them organized. Make sure you thank Larry for all of his efforts...

That's All Folks

That's all I have for now...

Thanks again to Juanita for everything she has done.

See you at the meeting... Mike

### **Editor's Notes**

By Larry Briggs

We had another club member in the hospital, John Hubbard spent a few days in a Belleville hospital with a suspicion of gall stones, but tests proved negative. He is now home recuperating.

Thanks to Rich Collins for the nice article he submitted for this issue, I hope that he will continue to submit to the Bits & Chips, His expertise is welcome. Now if more of you will follow suit we can have a more interesting newsletter.

At our next meeting night, there will be name tags for all members, they will be at the front table, please, when the meeting is over, return the name tag so that it will be available for the next meeting. Thank you..

If you will check the mailing label on the newsletter there will be an expiration date for your dues above your name.

I volunteered to check on the price of a CD Rom drive, for the clubs A500. I checked two advertisers, One had it for \$199.99, but was out of stock, the other dealer had it for \$239.99 but we must send the computer to them so they could update it with one meg chip ram, at no charge. The board decided that we could do without it and will join Fred Fish Disk of the month club to get all of the Fred Fish disks we do not have in our clubs library, at a much lower cost.

There is a new Amiga virus reported floating around, and it is a nasty one. It seems to infiltrate into the system and writes a four letter dirty word (F\_K) throughout your text. I do not know why anyone would want to do a thing like this. Shameful!. There will be something about this on a future Amiga D.O.M.

I received a call from the editor of the G.A.C. FLAK. Gateway Amiga Club, St Louis telling me that they will have an demonstration and Sales from some computer stores, they will sell Amiga Software and Hardware at a discount. He has invited everyone from our club to attend. It will be on Aug 4th, 93 at 7:30pm at the Washington University Med. School. Enter at loading dock off Scott. Parking lot at end of Scott. Sign in at guard desk.

# Reports

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Lets all give a big welcome to new members. None

THANKS AGAIN for continuing his memberships with us. James Eagen.

I would like to inform these members that their membership will expire this Coming meeting. Tom Clark, and Kenneth Jeffress.

This Member will be dropped as he has not renewed his membership. Tom McDonald.

If you have any questions about your membership, See Larry Briggs at the meeting, or call 345-0220.

## Treasure's Report

By Ken WelkerBalance

June,1,1993.....\$711.87

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N D.O.M. SALES IBM.....\$ 0.00  
C BLANK DISKS 3.5.....\$ 35.00  
O BLANK DISKS 5.25.....\$ 8.00  
M MEMBERSHIP.....\$ 15.00  
E 50/50 RAFFLE.....\$ 0.00

JUNE INCOME.....\$ 96.00

E  
X  
P NEWS LETTER.....\$ 20.50  
E POSTAGE.....\$ 11.60  
N  
S  
E  
S

MAY. EXPENSES.....\$ 32.10

CURRENT BALANCE.....\$775.77  
AS OF JULY. 1, 1993

## Amiga D.O.M. JULY. 93

by Jim Tomlinson

### Amiga Disk of the Month for July 1993

**FileFinder** - FileFinder works only under AmigaDos 2.0 and up. What is FileFinder? FileFinder is a simple commodity that allows you to search quickly for any file across any device(s).

**LazyBench** - This is a program 'launcher'. If you are tired of having to go into AmigaDOS Shell to run this program or that, LazyBench is what you need.

**Lyapunovia** - Here is a kaliedescope style program that is pure 'eye candy'. Lyapunovia is a mindbogglingly colorful program that makes pictures from a simple mathematical formula. (And it's NOT Mandelbrot!) Lyapunovia pictures vary from colorful candy to mean metal (or something), offering you everything you ever wanted in visual representation of abstract nothings...

**News!** - Here is another Amiga Report "EMAG". This time I only had room for one.

**PortalX** - This is a "front-end" for the messages provided by Portal. Portal is a nation-wide bulletin board system.

**SSW** - Solar System Wars is a neat game.

---

## MS-DOS D.O.M. JULY. 93

Ken Welker

### JULY 93 IBM D.O.M.

All of the programs on the months disk are in self extracting ZIP format. Just type the name of the program as it is on the disk followed by the destination disk. Example:  
COPYQM A: this will extract,COPYQM TO DRIVE A.

**COPYQM:** This is a stand alone disk copy program. It will make a copy to an unformatted disk. It formats, writes & verifies, as it goes. Read COPYQM.DOC for complete instructions.

**CNFMT108:** CON>FORMAT stands for Con(current)for(Matter)and offers you the capability of formatting diskettes "in the background" while other work is being done on your computer. See COMFMT.DOC for complete instructions.

**MENUWIX4:** Menu Wizard is a very powerful and easy to use PC Menu program. The program offers mouse support, an automatic and manual screen saver, Pop-up Calculator, Calendar, File Viewer and Editor along with an ASCII table. Password loading of menu entries and keyboard locking is supported along with the ability to disable menu options. See MenuWiz.doc for complete instructions.

**OVERKIL:** This is the game of OVERKILL I have not played it so I can not tell you much about it. Try it and let me know if it is any good.

---

## MINUTES

By John Hubbard

Reg. Meeting June, 93. opened at 7:12pm by Vice Pres. Minutes of the last meeting were accepted as printed in the Bits & Chips.

There is talk of getting a CD Rom for the club's A-500, we can all learn form this, I know I can.....I dont even know what a CD Rom is.

We will be getting a D.O.M every month from the Computer Chronicle in Paxtang, Pa. and we will send them one of ours.

64 64 64 Starting this month we will have a C-64 Disk Of the Month (D.O.M.) Thanks to Everett Truttmann and Eula & Ted Schmidt If we all work together we can do anything. THANKS FOR WORKING TOGETHER! DONT MISS THIS MEETING.....

There will be a Swap-Meet at the July meeting for 64/128, yes C-64, so if you have a 64, or would like to have one, be there, if you want to sell anything for the 64 be there. Tell a friend or two and bring them along. lets ALL PARTICIPATE and have fun.

Articles, Articles are needed for the Bits & Chips Newsletter, Larry can use any thing you have to say, the program you like the best, and why, or whats wrong with your computer, or parts of it, if you have a computer HD, Floppy, or other part you got that the store won't take back, and don't work right, any thing like that, or a store that gives good service after the sale, we all need to know where they are.

Larry Briggs will be making name tags for us, a big thanks Larry.

Mike Tapphorn Vice. Pres. closed the meeting at 7:46pm.

# FAX

By Phil Anderson

Why won't it go into WordPerfect?

Because you cannot get oranges in apple skins. A WordPerfect file, and any other word processor file - yes even the graphics ones, like GEO-Write and PFS:Write - are made up of numbers between 0 and 255. Some of the numbers stand for characters to be printed, and some of them stand for formatting commands, telling how the text is to be printed, but it is all numbers. These numbers are called bytes. For example, the number 32 means a space character - 34 is " ", and "a" is 61. The code for this character numbering system is standardized for almost all computers, and is referred to as ASCII. (Pronounced "askey.")

FAX files are also made up of numbers, but instead of using the 0 to 255 system, they use a binary (two number) system, consisting of 0s and 1s. While there are many different graphics systems, and if color is added, the complexity is increased enormously, the images produced by your FAX system are relatively simple. When you send a FAX with your computer, your word processor prints an image of your document, but instead of sending it to your printer, it is into the memory of your computer. The FAX software then saves this image, one line of dots at a time, to a FAX file, which consists of rows of dots and blanks, which are represented in the file as 1s for dots and 0s for white spaces. This image file is what is sent.

So, that is why you cannot load the text of a FAX file into your word processor to edit it. Word processors only understand ASCII as text. A FAX file has no text in it. It is merely a picture of the page, just as if you had printed it and then shot it with your Polaroid.

(c) 1993 by Philip Anderson - permission to reprint in entirety. Feb.1993 HACG Newsletter.

## Video Tape Video Games and other Goodies.

by Rich Collins

Our esteemed Vice President, Mike Taphorn, and editor, Larry Briggs were soliciting newsletter articles. Mike suggested I might explain why and how I videotape Amiga computer game solutions.

My first love in computers has always been adventure games. I mean those requiring thought instead of quick reflexes (since I don't have any). The latest one, Legend of Kyrandia was exceptional. It is like the Kings Quest Series only better, though the best one to date has been Elvira, Mistress of the Dark.

I tape these games for several reasons. It provides a reference to the solution and shows how I got around any particularly nasty problems. Since I do repeat the same game, often years apart, I have a set of notes to go back to. Also, friends have asked me for help or solutions. Sometimes, I take notes on paper; it depends on the game if I tape it or not. Generally, I solve the game first, then knowing the solution play it again and record it. On tape, I have Elvira, Jetsons, Easter Egg Hunt, Larry V, Sci-Fi Mutant Princess, Future Wars, and Transylvania. My fast-reflexes nephew taped Gods, Metal Mutant, and the end anim to Super Space Invaders. He hasn't found an arcade yet he couldn't finish.

Making the tape is simple. I connect a tv adapter (like a 501) or genlock to the Amiga 500/2000. The adapter plugs into the RGB video Amiga port. This provides a color composite video signal which goes to the video in on the VCR. Audio out from the computer goes straight to the audio in on the VCR. I use a Y cable from the computer since the VCR is not stereo. The video out signal from the VCR goes to the 1084 monitor CVBS signal in. Yours may be chroma. Any composite monitor will do, just so you can see what you are recording. The Amiga 500/2000 also have a monochrome composite out which you can

record directly from , only getting monochrome. The Amiga 600 and 1200 have composite color ports which may also work in this fashion.

I strongly suggest making a test tape a minute or so long insuring you have the system wired properly and the VCR controls set. This quick test can save a lot of moans and groans when you think you're recording when you are really not. Just hook it up, start the computer and press record! Some quality is lost from RGB to composite when taping in this fashion. If you have anything on computer and want it on video, this method is both easy and cheap, thanks to Commodore Amiga.

I constructed a crude HOW TO video on Deluxe Paint using this same technique, only using a microphone for the audio. Its a great way to store a multi-megabyte animation so anyone can see it anywhere that civilization exists.

Richard L Collins 6/21/93  
First Day of Summer

**Swap Night**  
**Bring anything**  
**Electronic to**  
**the meeting and**  
**see if you can**  
**sell it. Bring**  
**Money too, you**  
**may want to**  
**Buy Something.**

# REBIK'S RAMBLINGS

## The Ravings and Ramblings of a Demented Computer Nut

It is time for old "Motor Mouth" to sound off, again, so sit back and enjoy what I am about to say.

For those of us who have been "computerizing" for a long time, we tend to forget that not everyone has been pounding the keyboards as long as we. So, here are a few hints and tips that might be helpful to the beginning computerist.

Lets talk about disks, briefly. You know that the command: `LOAD "FILE NAME",8` will call a program off the disk and shove it into the computer's memory bank. But do you know why you have the command: `LOAD "FILE NAME",8,1` is used? It indicates that the program to be loaded is in machine language, and the ,1 tells the computer to load it at a certain address. If the program is not self starting, then you are often called upon to enter a command: `SYS 49152` or something similar. That tells the computer to go to that address to start the program.

Do you know how to "INITIALIZE" a disk? Initializing is an operation we should all perform before using the disk drive, and everytime the disk is changed. It repositions the head to its proper location to read the disk. It is done with the command: `OPEN 15,8,15,"I0": CLOSE 15`. Notice that I used a zero after the letter I. The zero crops up in a number of commands. I will try to explain that, later.

Suppose you want to scratch (or erase) a program on the disk.

Know how to do it? Use the command: `OPEN 15,8,15,"S0: FILE NAME": CLOSE 15`. Notice the similarity to the initialize command? The zero is there, too! Okay, you've scratched your file. Lets say that you have been using the same disk over and over again (like most of us) adding and scratching files. All of a sudden, you get an error statement that the disk is full. You load the directory, using the command: `LOAD "$" and list it. You add up all the blocks used, and it is far short of the 664 block limit. What do you do? Validate the disk! Fine, you say, but how do I do it? Use the command: OPEN 15,8,15,"V0": CLOSE 15. This command causes the disk drive to rearrange the programs, and the directory, to eliminate wasted space, and make it available again.`

Okay, suppose you have saved a program to disk. Can you be sure that it is a good copy, before you erase it from the computer's memory? Sure you can. Use the command: `VERIFY "FILENAME",8`. The message `VERIFYING "FILE NAME"` will appear on the screen, and the disk drive will compare the program on the disk with the one in the computer's memory. If they are identical, you'll get an OK. If not, you have a bad copy, or maybe a bad block on the disk. Note also that every time I used the `OPEN`

command, I followed it with a `CLOSE` command. It is important to close the channel after you have finished using it. Now for a brief explanation of the zero. 'Way back when, the Commodores had two disk drives, and their addresses were 0 and 1. When the drive units were split apart to make the single drive 1541, the operating system was not altered all that much, and while it rarely happens, the computer could try to address the non-existent 1 drive. To be sure the computer knows which drive we are using, we always use the 0 when opening a command channel to the disk drive. One last tip before I shut up. There is a "resave" command that the disk drive will recognize. What it does (or is supposed to do) is to erase a program before it saves the same program. You'd want this function if you had updated a program and wanted to save the new version under the same file name. **DO NOT**, I repeat, **DO NOT** ever use the resave command. You're asking for trouble. There is a bug in the 1541 that will sometimes scramble the new program when using the resave command. Instead, use the "scratch" command and the normal "save" command. Then you will have a good copy. I hope that is some small way, this has muddled (I mean cleared) up some of the confusion that surrounds disks and their drives.

[illegible]

ST. LOUIS, MO 631  
PM  
16 JUL  
1993



# First Class

# ***Bits & Chips***

**of the Gateway Computer Club**

**Volume 10**

**August 1993**

**Number 8**

## **President's Page**

**by Mike Taphorn**

### **New Vice President**

Diego Cardenas was voted in as the new Vice President! He has shown a great interest in the club already by writing a regular column for the Bits & Chips (B&C) and we all appreciate his efforts to help the club. Welcome to the Board Diego!!!

### **New Order Of Business**

When I became president, I did not really have a set of rules that told me what should be done at the meetings and in what order the things we should do were to be done. Confused? So was I. At the last board meeting we decided to organize the way the meeting flows. We thought that the IBM and C64 (and even Apple...Earl) users may feel a little left out when everyone talks about the Amiga all the time. So we decided to break the meeting into separate sections and make sure that each computer has an equal opportunity to be discussed. We hope that this will allow everyone to enjoy the meeting knowing that they are not going to be left out because the computer they own is not in the majority. Our philosophy is that all computer users are welcome regardless of the type of computer they use.

### **Special Interest Groups**

It came to my attention that we have an active C64 Special Interest Group (SIG) within our midst. Everett Truttman was at the last board meeting and he mentioned that a small group of

## **Editor's Notes**

**By Larry Briggs**

Our Swap night was a bust. There was very little to sell or trade. It seems that there is not very much that you members want to get rid of, that old C64/128 must be still going strong,

I just received a notice from Compute Magazine that they are not going to publish the AMIGA RESOURCE any more after the September issue. Another Commodore magazine bites the dust. To my knowledge, that leaves only two, the Amiga World, and Amazing Amiga.

If you look on the Ms-DOS side of Compute, there are hundreds of adds for their products, but on the Amiga side there were very few, that is, I'm sure the reason for the RESOURCE's demise. I am very disappointed that these magazines are not going to be available, I enjoy reading them.

I have been notified that the demonstration of the new PageStream Ver.3 by Soft-Logik has been moved to the September 1st meeting at the Gateway Amiga Club, St. Louis Mo. This is the program that I use to do the GCC Newsletter. I am currently using Ver.2.21, I'm looking forward to the upgrade.

C64 users have been meeting regularly for years. I am very happy that this group exists and I hope that every C64 user who is interested in the SIG will contact Everett at the next meeting. The board members asked Everett to write a small article describing what they do at their meetings. I hope Everett comes through now that I've shamed him into it...I'm sure he'll make me proud. Anyway I would like to know if anyone would be interested in an IBM or Amiga SIG, and if you are, please tell me at the next meeting. Everybody seems to be busy nowadays, but if we set a certain night to meet,

*CONT. PAGE 5*



# Reports

## The Club

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Direct all membership applications and questions to the Gateway Computer Club c/o P.O.Box 1839, Fairview Heights, IL 62206.

Only public domain programs are kept in the G.C.C. library. Reproduction of copyrighted software is not promoted nor condoned by the G.C.C. and will not be tolerated at club functions.

## Bits & Chips

Please direct all submissions and advertising to Editor Larry Briggs, 1021 Lafayette Ct. Collinsville, IL 62234. Camera ready advertising must be received by the first of the month to be included in the issue of the month.

Rates are as follows: Full page- \$15.00, Half page- \$7.50, Quarter page- \$3.75, and business card- \$10.00 for 6 months.

Contents of the Bits & Chips may be reprinted by other club newsletters if accompanied by the author's name and credit is given to the GATEWAY COMPUTER CLUB. The G.C.C. assumes no liability for errors in articles or advertisements.

## Membership Report

Larry Briggs

As of August 1st.-1993 we have 41 active members in our club..

Lets all give a big welcome to new members. None

THANKS AGAIN for continuing his memberships with us. Tom McDonald, and Ken Jeffress.

I would like to inform these members that their membership will expire this Coming meeting. None.

This Member will be dropped as he has not renewed his membership. Tom Clark.

If you have any questions about your membership, See Larry Briggs at the meeting, or call 345-0220.

## The Officers

PRES: Mike Taphorn.....345-2197  
V.P.: Diago Cardenas.....344-8017  
SEC: John Hubbard.....345-1934  
TRES: Ken Welker.....234-5901  
EDITOR: Larry Briggs.....345-0220  
LIBR: John Hubbard.....345-1934  
MAL: Bill Broda.....533-0148  
MAL: Inge Liggett.....344-0839  
ASST LIBR: (AMIGA).....Jim Tomlinson  
ASST LIBR: (MS-DOS).....Ken Welker  
MEMBERSHIP: Larry Briggs.....345-0220

## Treasure's Report

By Ken Welker Balance

July, 1, 1993.....\$775.77

I D.O.M. SALES.AMIGA.....\$ 20.00  
N D.O.M. SALES IBM.....\$ 16.00  
C BLANK DISKS 3.5.....\$ 12.50  
O BLANK DISKS 5.25.....\$ 0.00  
M MEMBERSHIP.....\$ 15.00  
E 50/50 RAFFLE.....\$ 5.50

JULY INCOME.....\$ 69.00

E POASTMASTER.....\$ 46.50  
X MISC. SUPPLIES.....\$ 8.52  
P NEWS LETTER.....\$ 30.30  
E POSTAGE.....\$ 11.60  
N FRED FISH (DISKS).....\$ 90.00  
S CASEYVILLE TOWNSHIP....\$50.00  
E  
S

JULY EXPENSES.....\$236.92

CURRENT BALANCE.....\$607.85  
AS OF AUGUST. 1, 1993

## Amiga D.O.M. AUG. 93

by Jim Tomlinson

**CDROM INFO** - Here are the results of a USENET survey of Amiga CD-ROM that was conducted during Spring, 1993. This article contains information about hardware setups, CD-ROM filesystem software, popular CD-ROM discs, and reported solutions to common problems.

**CROSS** - Cross V5.0 is a computer aided crossword construction program (I guess 'CACC' might be a nice acronym for that :-). It should work with any Amiga configuration if you're using at least Kickstart 2.04 (37.175). Cross should work with all memory configurations, including 512 KB. However I recommend 1 MB of RAM or more.

**IFFCONVERT** - IFF-Convert is used to convert the different compression methods of IFF-ILBM files. It supports the normal compression (like D'Paint), a new compression method (see documentation) and uncompressed files.

**LX** - LX is a fast dearchiver/decompressor for the Commodore Amiga. It is compatible with LZ, Lhunarc, Lharc, LharcA, and LhA (all for the Amiga), and Lharc and LHA for MS-DOS.

**POSTCARDMAN** - Again I present the great PostCardMan Cheats and backdoors. This time he has included some hints for the Sega Genesis and the Super NES game machines.

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## MS-DOS D.O.M. AUG. 93

Ken Welker

ASA55C.EXE and AUTOCAT.EXE are self extracting ZIP files.

**SUPERFLY** SuperFly is an action game in which your home has been invaded by a swarm of flies and other nasty bugs. It includes 20 different rounds with a variety of obstacles. There are three levels of difficulty and a number of game options. To get started, either read the .doc file or just start up the game and view the helpscreen.

**AUTOCAT** Autocat has been developed for Cataloging your Floppy Disks for storage. It has been designed to make the 'reading in' of your floppies as painless as possible, and retrieval quick and convenient. The general idea behind AUTOCAT, is to NUMBER your disks from 1 to whatever (Disk space limit only) and add them to the database with the auto numbering feature ON. Then place the disks in numerical order, into boxes of 200 or so. Later when searching for a disk, you can search for a specific filename and it will report

what disk 'number' that file is stored on. Then you just go to thatbox and get the file you need.

### AS-EASY-AS V5.5

This is public Domain version of LOTUS 123. This is Disk #2 of a two-disk set of the AS-EASY-AS V5.5 program. If you received the program on a 3.5" or a high density disk, it's possible that all files from Disk #1 (Program Disk) and Disk #2 (Samples/Util Disk) are contained on ONE disk. If that's

cont Page 4 MS-DOS

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## MINUTES

By John Hubbard

President Taphorn opened the meeting at 7:15pm.

New Bis. New Vice President was voted on at last meeting, Diego Cardenas and Rich Koerper ran for the office, Diego Cardenas is our new Vice President.

Name tags: You have a name tag to use so we know who you are, we are tired of calling you Hay You, so when you come in, go to the front table and get your name tag.

A BIG thanks to Larry Briggs for making the name tags.

Membership: 39 members is what we have as of this meeting. How can we make our club bigger????? I know, everyone bring a friend with them next meeting.

Treasure's report was in the Bits & Chips and was accepted as printed.

### PULLING ROPE

I was told a story once about a man trying to move a stone, the man got him self a rope and put the around the stone, it was a big stone and had to be moved. The man pulled and pulled and the stone did not move. He started to think, if he had some help to pull on the rope he may move the stone, he went and got help and put another rope on the other side of the stone. He put some of the help on one rope and some on the other rope. As they started to pull on the rope from each side they still could not move the stone. The man had to find out the hard way that, if we all pull together we can do just about anything. Can we all pull on the same rope at the same time???????

Bring someone with you to the next meeting and lets all pull together.

The President closed the meeting at 8:06pm

## Diego's Diary - Experiences with the Amiga

by Diego Cardenas

I'm one of those people that read newsletters and always thought that I could write an article but never did. Maybe I was never inspired or maybe I was just waiting for someone to ask me directly but either way, I have been asked and I am inspired to put fingers to keyboard and pound out an article!

Hopefully this will just be the first of a series of article submissions by me. I plan to write about how I use my Amiga, what software and hardware I use with it, and just general computer type experiences. First off, a little about myself.

I'm 29, married for 6 years, and I have a 3 year old daughter. I am a physician but I also have an undergraduate degree in engineering. I got started with computers as a freshman in high school playing Star Trek in the mid-1970's on a terminal linked by phone to a PDP 11/70 computer. My first home computer was a Commodore 64 in 1982 and I then graduated to an Amiga 1000 in 1985. After a brief stint with an A500, I moved into the world of power computing with an A3000 3 years ago. Two months ago I added an A1200 to my collection. In addition to the Amigas, I also have A-Max II (the software Macintosh emulator), a Xetec CD-ROM drive, a SupraFaxmodem v32bis, a Citizen GSX-130 color printer, and a few other odds and ends.

Today I'll talk about my Amiga 1200. For those of you unaware, the A1200 is one of the newest computers released by Commodore. Similar to the other Amiga computers produced since 1985, the main advantage of the A1200 over previous computers is what is known as the AGA chipset. AGA stands for Advanced Graphics Architecture. Prior Amigas, although superior in graphics at the time of their release, have been surpassed in many people's opinions by the availability of Super VGA graphics on IBM platforms and 24 bit graphic availability on the Macintosh line. AGA allows for similar graphic

modes as SVGA such as 256 colors on a 640 by 480 screen from a palette of 16 million colors but it also incorporates a new Amiga only mode called HAM8 that allows for approximately 256,000 colors on the screen at once. These HAM8 screens are difficult to distinguish from true 24 bit screens but are still compatible with the video modes that keep the Amiga alive in the computer world.

The A1200 has a built in 880K 3.5 inch disk drive like the A500 and A600, a trapdoor underneath the computer to allow for internal expansion, and a built in IDE hard drive interface. Also, like the A600, the A1200 has a PCMCIA (don't ask me what it stands for!) port on the left side. This PCMCIA port currently supports on RAM expansion cards up to 4 megabytes in size but as this is the same port used in many IBM laptop computers, the potential for small hard drives, small modems, SCSI interfaces, etc. are nearly unlimited. A 386 emulator and a color Mac emulator have been announced as under development specifically for the A1200. The A1200 comes standard with 2 megs of Chip RAM (RAM accessible by all the Amiga's custom chips) and can be expanded to 128 megs of Fast RAM (RAM accessible only by the micro-processor) with the addition of a trapdoor accelerator. For those of you fond of PAL games and programs, a built in PAL/NTSC switch is on the back of the computer.

I'll stop here and continue my ramblings next month. Ta Ta, for now.

### Computer For Sale

Commodore 128, (2) 1541  
Disk Drives, \$200.00 for all  
three.

OR

\$75.00 each for 1541's

\$50.00 for the 128 Computer.

Price negotiable.

Call Richard Koeper

at 452-5110

### MS-DOS

the case, then any reference to Disk #2, (or Disk #1) below, should be assumed to refer to your SINGLE disk.

Disk #2 Contains only two files. This (ASA55U.DOC) file and a Self-Extract file (ASA55U.EXE) which is an archive containing all the sample worksheets and other files. The files from ASA55U.EXE are extracted during the installation process of AS-EASY-AS (i.e., executing the INSTALL.EXE program on Disk #1). For more information, please refer to the READ.ME text file on Disk #1. After the files have been extracted from the archive, you may view, or print the SAMPLES.DOC, any other files with the file extension .DOC, or the on-disk user's manual (ASEASY.MAN).

### Extending Ribbon Life

Here's a tip handed down through Appleworks Forum for adding new life to printer ribbons. When a ribbon starts to print too light, store it in a plastic "zip-lock" bag for a few days with a cotton ball soaked in rubbing alcohol. The alcohol fumes will soften the ink and allow it to bleed into depleted areas on the ribbon, extending life by up to 25%. Storing ribbons this way will also extend shelf life. I have had good results with restoring dry ribbons with WD-40. Carefully remove the cartridge cover by prying off with a small screwdriver, and lightly spray the exposed ribbon. The WD40 will also lubricate pins in your dot matrix print head.

Permission to reprint  
given by Curt Schroeder from  
the MCAPPLE MAGAZINE.

It will make it easier to schedule for everyone. Again please tell me if any of this sounds interesting.

Well I'm sure Larry is going to kill me when I tell him how long my article is, so you'll have to wait and see what else we discussed at the last board meeting when you come to the next regular meeting on Wednesday.

#### Free Bits & Chips to Visitors

Diego not only joined the board, but he also brought a lot of good ideas that he has gathered in his travels with the air force. He suggested that we send the Bits & Chips newsletter to any visitors that are interested in the club for a trial period of two months with no obligations. The board members thought this was a good idea and decided that from now on any visitor interested in the club could give their name and address to the Secretary and he will make sure that two complimentary Bits & Chips are sent to them. We are hoping that once the visitors receive a free newsletter, they will be overcome with joy and they will come to the next meeting and throw down \$1000.00 for a lifetime membership. Just kidding, actually we hope the free newsletters help remind people that we are here and they are welcome to come to our meetings even if they don't join.

#### New Food Committee

We decided at the last board meeting that we should try to start a food committee to bring food for the meetings. What we would like to do is have someone volunteer to purchase food & drinks with the club's money and bring it to the meeting hall. Because it would not be fair to have the same person bring food & drinks to every meeting (unless someone volunteers to do it!), we would like to have a different person bring food to each meeting. This

would make it less of a burden for everyone. Bringing food once a year is not that difficult and to prove it, I am bringing the food and soda for the August meeting. Please sign the signup sheet by the month that you would like to purchase the food for the club. Any volunteers will be greatly rewarded (NOT).

#### Computer Setter Uppers

Speaking of volunteers, we would like to have someone help poor old John Hubbard set up the computers at the beginning of the meeting. John is always early and he could use a little help (with the computers). We will have a signup sheet similar to the Food Committee signup sheet on the table for everyone to sign by their favorite months. Again if everyone signs up for one month a year the task will not seem too burdensome.

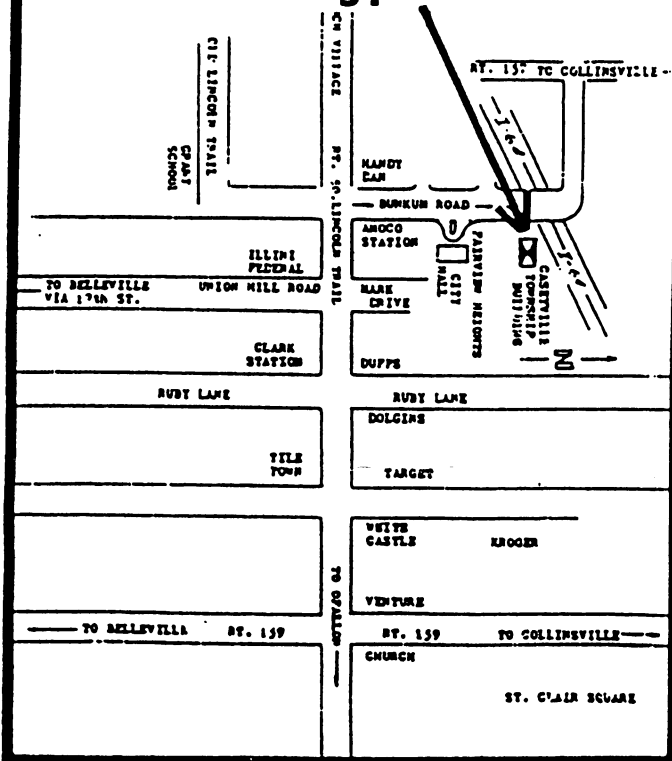
#### Games...Games...Games...

We would like to see if anyone is interested in having a Game Of The Month section during the meeting. What we had in mind was that a certain amount of time would be spent each meeting showing off all the great new games that everyone has purchased lately. A different game would be featured each month and mentioned in the newsletter so everyone can bring their kids if you think they might like it. We may have a games contest each month with prizes for the kids (and kids at heart) if any of you parents decide to start bringing them to the meetings.

I would also like to start a Hints & Tips column in the Bits & Chips. I don't have much room this month, but for all you Populous II players try using ADKIUCMCZNDIFINL as your God's Code and see what happens...

The President's report and this page is a paste up  
My Computer quit ED.

## Gateway Computer Club meeting place



## GCC Directory

### Next Meeting:

AUGUST 18th, 1993 7:pm

### Next Exec. Bd. Meeting:

SEPTEMBER 1st, 1993 7:00pm  
At the Western Sizzlin  
FAIRVIEW HEIGHTS, IL

### Next Copy Session:

At all REGULAR MEETINGS

### Visitors Always Welcome

### At Meetings

Meetings are held the third Wednesday of every month at the Caseyville Township Hall, 10010 Bunkum Road in Fairview Heights



**GATEWAY COMPUTER CLUB**  
P.O. Box 1839  
Fairview Heights, IL 62208

Check your dues date!

# First Class

# ***Bits & Chips***

## **of the Gateway Computer Club**

**Volume 10**

**September 1993**

**Number 9**

### **President's Page**

by Mike Taphorn

#### **Volunteers**

Well we didn't have any sign up sheets for everyone to use for the various club duties at the last meeting, but we did get some volunteers anyway. Here they are:

Food: Norman Collins  
Demos: Earl Salmons - Appleworks  
Jim Tomlinson- Modems  
BBS News: Jim Tomlinson  
Computer: Diego Cardenas

Last Month's Demos were very interesting and I would like to thank Ken & Diego and everyone else who helped for sharing them with us.

We will have signup sheets at the next meeting, so everyone bring your calendars so you know what months you can help out by volunteering.

#### **Bulletin Board News Report**

Jim Tomlinson gave a great bulletin board news report at the last meeting that had a lot of information concerning Commodore and many other computer manufacturers. He has promised to give a Bulletin Board News Report at every meeting. I can't wait to hear what he has dug up for the next meeting. I would like to thank Jim for spending his time to create these reports...Thanks Jim.

#### **Computers At The Meeting**

I was very glad to see more computers at the last meeting and I hope more people will bring their computers in the future.

Myself and a few board members plan on bringing some of our new software (Public Domain of course...) to each meeting. This means that if you bring your computer, you will have somewhere to copy all the neat, new, exciting software that we bring to the meetings.

#### **East Side Computer Club**

Having the president bring software to the meetings seemed to work for the East Side Computer club that meets at the Woodriver Library every third Saturday.

I went to their last meeting and I was amazed at what a little software could do to boost membership. Of course the huge Jolly Roger at the Presidents Table indicated that all of the software was strictly public domain software. Anyway, they had no less than ten computers set up with at least three or four CD-ROM systems. I hope that someday our club will have meetings that involve this kind of hardware.

#### **Death To Compute - Amiga**

Well, we've lost another Amiga magazine. Compute's Amiga edition officially died as of the September issue. I immediately called and voiced my opinion and cancelled my subscription to show that I was upset with their decision. I hope that they will reconsider, but I'm not holding my breath.

#### **Meeting Structure**

I would like to get some feedback on the new divided order of business (C-64&C-128/IBM/Amiga). I hope that everyone likes the new way, but I think there is always room for improvement. We're trying to make the meetings more interesting for everyone, but the only way we know how we're doing is if you tell us. Let us know what you think at the next meeting.

#### **Tip Of The Month**

**WINGS:** While on the main menu screen, hold down the CTRL Shift and Alt keys on the left side of the keyboard and the Right mouse button simultaneously. While holding the keys and the right mouse button, press the Left mouse button on the letters in the title for the following results:

Cont. Page 4  
President's Page

# Reports

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## Membership Report

Larry Briggs

As of September 1st.-1993 we have 40 active members in our club.

Lets all give a big welcome to new members. None

THANKS AGAIN for continuing his membership with us. Ken Welker.

I would like to inform these members that their membership will expire this Coming meeting. Sherry Freeman, Ruth Shaw, Charles Trotter, and Juanita Welker.

This Member will be dropped as she has not renewed her membership. Sandra Rosciglione.

If you have any questions about your membership, See Larry Briggs at the meeting, or call 345-0220.

## The Officers

PRES: Mike Taphorn.....345-2197  
V.P.: Diego Cardenas.....624-6493  
SEC: John Hubbard.....345-1934  
TRES: Ken Welker.....234-5901  
EDITOR: Larry Briggs.....345-0220  
LIBR: John Hubbard.....345-1934  
MAL: Bill Broda.....533-0148  
MAL: Inge Liggett.....344-0839  
ASST LIBR: (AMIGA).....Jim Tomlinson  
ASST LIBR: (MS-DOS).....Ken Welker  
MEMBERSHIP: Larry Briggs.....345-0220

## Treasure's Report

By Ken Welker

Balance AUG. 1, 1993.....\$607.85

I D.O.M. SALES.AMIGA.....\$ 28.00  
N D.O.M. SALES IBM.....\$ 6.00  
C BLANK DISKS 3.5.....\$ 12.50  
O BLANK DISKS 5.25.....\$ 0.00  
M MEMBERSHIP.....\$ 30.00  
E 50/50 RAFFLE.....\$ 6.50  
SODA.....\$ 4.00

JULY INCOME.....\$ 87.00

E BLANK DISKS.....\$221.85  
X FOOD & SODA.....\$ 9.48  
P NEWS LETTER.....\$ 30.30  
E POSTAGE.....\$ 17.40  
N D.O.M. DOWNLOADS.....\$60.00  
S  
E  
S

AUG. EXPENSES.....\$ 339.03

CURRENT BALANCE.....\$ 355.82  
AS OF SEP.. 1, 1993

## Amiga D.O.M. SEPT. 93

by Jim Tomlinson

**AMIGA REPORT** - Here is another great electronic magazine with lots of news.

**ATOM** - Atoms is a game for your Amiga. No doubt about that. Its one of those "social games" that get better as more players join in. Its also one of those games where you get to stomp on your best friends in the name of friendly competition. It was originally a type-in program for the VIC called Critical Mass.

**Billiards** - Here is a PAL billiards game with some nice gameplay. Sorry, no support for sound or NTSC yet.

**DISKSALV2.0** - DiskSalv is a "Disk Salvage" program. It can recover data from a disk in severe trouble, it can fix a good portion of disk problems directly on the problem disk, and it can locate valid partitions on a disk with an unknown layout or damaged rigid disk block. It supports all AmigaDOS file systems through 3.0.

**FASTCACHE** - FastCache is a software-invoked caching algorithm for hard drives. FastCache was design to be used under KS2.0. However, I have used only KS1.3 functions. Because of this FastCache may also work under KS1.3, but no guarantees. FastCache should ONLY be used on devices that support seeking, like hard drives. FastCache works best with at least 512K of memory. It runs acceptably in 256K, but don't expect big performance gains.

**ICONSHOW** - Iconshow lets you view icons from the shell (CLI). This program works only from CLI and only on KS2.04 or higher.

**MOSTRA** - This file describes 'Mostra' 2.0, a shareware IFF viewer featuring real-time unpacking scroll, dozens of options, localization, "smart" analysis of any IFF file (FORMs, LISTs,... also nested ILBM!), total control over display modes, simple slideshow processing, pattern matching, multipalette, double buffering, fast decompression, color cycling, Texinfo docs, startup files for easy custom configurations and complete WB support.

## MS-DOS D.O.M. SEPT. 93

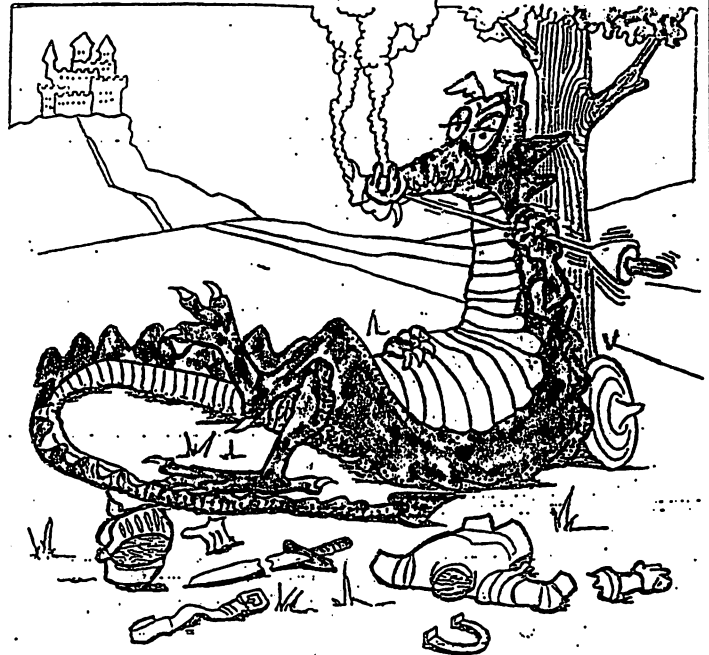
Ken Welker

Due to the lack of interest in the IBM D.O.M., I am only going to make a D.O.M. every other month. The next D.O.M. will be in October. When ever D.O.M. sales show enough interest, I will resume making a D.O.M. every month.

Remember...

No Matter How Hard You Work..

No Matter How Right You Are...



*Sometimes the Dragon Wins*

## MINUTES

By John Hubbard

President Taphorn opened the meeting at 7:25pm.

We had four computers at the last meeting, if you missed it, you missed out.

Food Committee for September is Norman Collins, Thanks Norman.

If you want to have a C-64 D.O.M. let an officer know, we were going to have one, but we can't find anyone to do it.

Financial report and membership report were ok'd as printed in the Bits & Chips.

Next demo will be with an Apple Computer, and also on an A-500 modem.

We still need someone to help set up the club's computer.

President closed the business meeting at 8:35pm.

After a 15 min recess the demo's were presented.



## Diego's Diary - Experiences with the Amiga

Has anybody else ever used Final Copy II? I've used all sorts and manners of wordprocessors starting from the Commodore 64 days through the Amiga. I remember spending hours typing in SpeedScript (I think that was the name) out of Computes! Gazette. Dot (.) commands were used to set up proper formatting of the document. Even the first word processors on the Amiga like Scribble! used dot commands for text formatting. The problem, I always felt, was not really knowing what the document was going to look like until one actually printed it out.

Final Copy II for the Amiga is a WYSIWUG (what you see is what you get) type wordprocessor. This means that one knows exactly what the final document will look like before printing it out. This has been invaluable to me for publishing a newsletter for my wife's school. Graphics are placeable in the documents as well for a quasi-desktop publishing setup. The most useful feature to me thus far has been the ability to adjust the size of the text and other attributes as well.

This paragraph is show off some of these features. Text can be bigger, smaller, wider, thinner, many different fonts are possible with Final Copy II, and color printing as well but I cannot demonstrate that with our newsletter. A few other wordprocessors for the Amiga have these capabilities including WordsWorth and ProWrite. In fact, I use to use ProWrite before switching to Final Copy for its faster speed in printing documents. WordsWorth is a European program that I have not had any experience with but is touted as being very powerful.

Below is a condensed sample of my wife's newsletter (she attends school for physician assistants so don't be alarmed if you don't know the answer. The ability resize graphics, have text flow around graphics, and copy text from document into another makes all this possible. The answer is "paronychia" in case you are wondering. The box around Roche Laboratories was

created within Final Copy II. The doctor graphic was converted from an IBM PCX format to Amiga IFF using Art Department Professional, and I personally drew the finger using Deluxe Paint IV AGA (can you tell how proud I am?).

### BIWEEKLY CASE #1

Brought to you this week by Roche  
Laboratories

History: A 47 year old man with 3 days of pain, swelling, and purulent discharge over skin around nail of right middle finger. (See picture)

Physical examination: Temperature 37.8 oC. (100.0 oF). Nail proper appears intact. Erythema, swelling, and tenderness of skin at base and around edges of the nail; some irregular erosion of erythematous skin. Pulp space of digit normal. Distal nail does not show onycholysis.

\*\*\*\*\* WHAT IS YOUR  
DIAGNOSIS? \*\*\*\*\*

Note: Your answer must be returned to me, in my mail box, no later than JULY 22 in order to be considered for the prize! If more than one good answer, prize will be awarded by a random drawing.

## Editor's Notes

By Larry Briggs

As you read this Newsletter, I will be on my way to merry old London, England. I will be gone for two weeks. This is my first over seas trip and I am looking to have a good time.

At our last meeting there were 2 amiga 1200's, 1 amiga 500 and an MS-DOS laptop computer, all running different demonstrations at the same time, very interesting. There has not been that much activity for some time. I do hope that was not a flash in the pan, and we will see more of the same in the future. It was announced that if you are having trouble running any program, bring it with you to the meeting and see if anyone can help, that is what the club is all about, helping each other. I've been playing around with computers for about 10 years and I still need help. I try to find out who the expert is for the problem that I have, and give him/her a

call, and nine times out of ten I get my answer. Don't be bashful, ask questions, get answers.

As you can see, I have my A-2000 repaired and back in service, it sure is a terrible feeling when your computer quits, specially when you are working to get a newsletter out. I was all done except for the President's report, (as he was a little late getting it to me), and had to finish it with a paste up. It sure made it look different. (BAD)

I want to thank all those that are contributing articles for the Bits & Chips, it makes for a more interesting letter. Please do not stop, keep them coming, Thanks again..

From Page 1  
President's Page

W - Music On/Off  
I - CAPS LOCK = Autofire  
N - No flight school required  
G - Guess  
S - Saves game without exiting

O.K. everybody get out those old disks and brush the dust off.



## Fred Fish

I have been told that Fred Fish will no longer issue his work on floppy disks after his count reaches 1000. He will then only offer his disks on an CD Rom. It looks like we will have to buy an CD Rom drive if we want to use any of his work. At least we will have the first 1000 disks in our club's library.

# REBIK'S RAMBLINGS

## *The Ravings and Ramblings of a Demented Computer Nut*

Hi, its me again! In my previous articles, I have tried to tell some of the short cuts and quirks we have discovered over the years. I have mentioned only one no-no is using disk drives, that being the "resave" command. There is another I should have mentioned. NEVER, ever, remove a disk from the drive while the red light is on. You won't damage the drive, but there no better way to scramble the disk. You might get away with it if you are reading the disk. If you happen to be writing to the disk, heaven help you! If you are lucky, all that will happen is the file will be lost, and you will get a "write file open" error, and you cannot write to nor read that file. On the other hand, if the directory is being written, its "good-bye disk"!

If your program should crash, and the keyboard lock up with the red light still on, power down, then restart your system. That way, the worst possible condition is you will lose that program and you will get a "splat file" on your disk. This will be identified by a star.

If you have a "splat file" on your disk, don't try to scratch it. It won't work. Instead, validate the disk, and it should vanish. If this does not remove the unwanted file, then a utility like "yellow pages" that will allow you to rewrite the directory is your best way out. A word of caution is in order. When using a disk editor such as "yellow pages", be very careful. They are very unforgiving if you make a boo-boo!

There is yet another way, although it is somewhat time consuming. Copy the files onto another disk. Most copy programs give you the option of either copying or not. Simply leave the offending file on the original disk, and after the copy has been made, reformat the original disk. Whenever I have a program that writes to

the disk, such as address files, shopping lists, mailing lists, word processors, etc. I like to devote a single disk to that particular program. Again, the disk marketers love this, but at least a whole disk full of utility programs is not involved if there is a goof-up on my part.

While I am telling of how to make the disk marketers happy, lets go one step further. Make back up copies of all your programs. Never use the original as a working copy. Keep the originals in a safe place. You'll never regret it.

At one time or another, all of us have played games on our computers. In fact, it is probably safe to say that games were the primary reason most of us got computers in the first place.

When loading some commercial software, the head in your disk drive will "hammer". This is a normal happening, but it does have a tendency to knock the drive out of alignment. You don't have to live with the "hammering". If your program is written in BASIC, the addition of one line at the beginning will eliminate the hammering. Or, you can enter the line in the direct mode (as opposed to program mode). That line is: `open 15,8,15:print#15,"m-w";chr$(106)chr$(0)chr$(1)chr$(133):close 15`. If you add this line to a program, be sure to add a line number between two of the first lines in the program.

Disk drives get rather warm when they have been on line for a while. Never stack disk drives one on top another. Keep the bottom and top free of

material that might block the flow of air. Many of us have added fans to the top of our drives to help the drives keep their cool.

Another quirk in the C-64 system is the rather fragile power supply. They are rather notorious in failing. And, they can't be repaired. Replacement power supplies are available from several sources. Most repair facilities have them, as well as some software dealers. Generally, the after market power supplies have more power available than the one that came with your computer. When your computer starts acting up, flashing screen, writing strange characters, your power supply just might be the culprit.

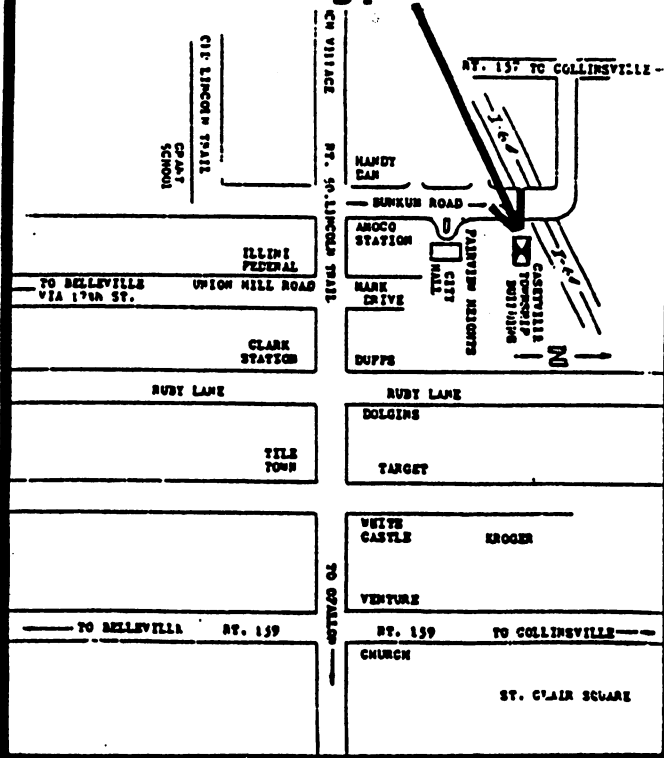
Keeping the power supply in the open where air can circulate around it will help prolong its life.

Another good investment is a line voltage spike protector. When an electric device is turned on or off, it creates a small spark that can ruin computer chips. The power supply does a good job of removing these "voltage spikes" but they are not infallible. Compared to the price of computer repairs, the spike protectors are cheap. Play safe, get one for your system. They are easy to find. Some companies make a whole package that will also protect your modem, too.

---

What is the best way to make a fire with two sticks?  
Make sure one of them is a match!

## Gateway Computer Club meeting place



## GCC Directory

### Next Meeting:

SEPTEMBER 15th, 1993 7:pm

### Next Exec. Bd. Meeting:

Oct. 6th, 1993 at 7:00pm  
at the Western Sizzlin  
Fairview Heights, IL

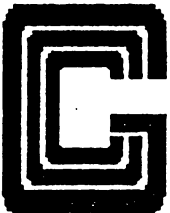
### Next Copy Session:

At all REGULAR MEETINGS.

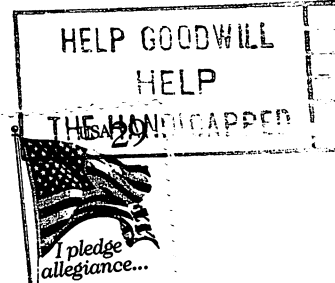
### Visitors Always Welcome

### At Meetings

Meetings are held the third Wednesday of every month at the Caseyville Township Hall, 10010 Bunkum Road in Fairview Heights



**GATEWAY COMPUTER CLUB**  
**P.O. Box 1839**  
**Fairview Heights, IL 62208**



**Check your dues date!**

# First Class

# ***Bits & Chips***

## **of the Gateway Computer Club**

**Volume 10**

**October 1993**

**Number 10**

### **President's Page**

by Mike Taphorn

Hello! Wow! What a month...It seems like forever since I wrote the last President's Page...

#### **News From The Past**

Jim Tomlinson ordered the Fred Fish disks that we have discussed at the last couple meetings and John Hubbard promised that he would check the mail and look for them because we should have them by now. Hopefully we'll have the latest greatest disks at the next meeting.

Jim also said that he would look into ordering the Famous Postcardman documentation disks that we discussed at the last meeting. These disks are said to contain hundreds and hundreds of documentation files that could help many users that have uh...misplaced their docs...yeah yeah that's the ticket. We'll get an update on the disks from Jim at the next meeting.

#### **Volunteers**

Food: Norman Collins

Demos: Jim T.- Modems

Diego Cardenas

-Miracle Keyboard & 1200

BBS News: Jim Tomlinson

Computer: Diego Cardenas

Please thank all the volunteers and board members for all they do to support the club. We have a great club and people are starting to get more involved every meeting. If you have something you would like to show off or just like talking in front of large groups of people, (or groups of large people in out case...), please volunteer and show us what you can do.

#### **Travel Updates**

Larry Briggs and I both took vacations since the last meeting. I went to Virginia and Larry toured Europe. We can give a short travel update at the next meeting to anyone who wants one. If you've gone on an exciting trip please share your experiences with the rest of us. We could all use some good vacation stories to take our minds off the trials and tribulations of life.

#### **Mail**

Speaking of trials and tribulations, John Hubbard said that we get a lot of junk mail in our P.O. box that he has to throw out whenever he gets our mail, so I asked him to bring it all to the next meeting so we can all get an idea of how much mail we get and how much work he does for the club.

#### **Game Of The Month**

We talked about it before and the feedback was astounding...(John Hubbard asked about it at the last Board Meeting). Because of the great response to the suggestion that we have a games contest at each meeting (thanks John) I plan on bringing a game to the next meeting that we should all be able to play. Whoever gets the most points wins a fabulous prize to be named at the meeting. Bring your wife/husband! Bring your Kids! But don't bring a Nintendo...

#### **Member List**

Larry has offered to alphabetize our massive member list and distribute it at our next meeting (if possible) so everyone has an easy way to get a hold of their favorite members. I may make my phone number unlisted if Dick Koerper keeps calling me though... Just kidding! That's why we are here... Thanks Larry...

#### **Software Software Software**

I think everyone enjoyed having software available at the last meeting. I'll try to bring another box of stuff to share with everyone at the next meeting. Please bring your new stuff too so I don't run out of things to do.

#### **MY LAST PRESIDENTS PAGE** (From My Current Address)

My wife and I are moving from the condo we currently rent to a house near Collinsville High School. We are both excited and stressed about buying a house. My new address will appear on the membership list that Larry is preparing. I'll try to keep my phone number the same. If I seem a little tired or stressed at the next please forgive me...

**See You At The Next Meeting!!!!!!!**

# Reports

## The Club

The Gateway Computer Club is a not for profit organization of like-minded computer users. Membership fee is \$15.00 per year. Members receive access to the club's public domain library, educational programs, literature and monthly Bits & Chips Newsletter.

Direct all membership applications and questions to the Gateway Computer Club c/o P.O.Box 1839, Fairview Heights, IL 62206.

Only public domain programs are kept in the G.C.C. library. Reproduction of copyrighted software is not promoted nor condoned by the G.C.C. and will not be tolerated at club functions.

## Bits & Chips

Please direct all submissions and advertising to Editor Larry Briggs, 1021 Lafayette Ct. Collinsville, IL 62234. Camera ready advertising must be received by the first of the month to be included in the issue of the month.

Rates are as follows: Full page- \$15.00, Half page- \$7.50, Quarter page- \$3.75, and business card- \$10.00 for 6 months.

Contents of the Bits & Chips may be reprinted by other club newsletters if accompanied by the author's name and credit is given to the GATEWAY COMPUTER CLUB. The G.C.C. assumes no liability for errors in articles or advertisements.

## Membership Report

Larry Briggs

As of October 1st.-1993 we have 39 active members in our club.

Lets all give a big welcome to new members. None

THANKS AGAIN for continuing their membership with us. Ruth Shaw, Charles Trotter, Juanita Welker and George & Clara McClaskey.

I would like to inform these members that their membership will expire this Coming meeting. Bill Broda, Gerald Powers, Rich Collins, John Koen, Dick Koerper, Mike Taphorn, and John Sundstrom.

These Members will be dropped as they have not renewed their membership. Sherry Freeman.& Sandra Rosciglione.

If you have any questions about your membership, See Larry Briggs at the meeting, or call 345-0220.

## The Officers

PRES: Mike Taphorn.....345-2197  
V.P.: Diego Cardenas.....624-6493  
SEC: John Hubbard.....345-1934  
TRES: Ken Welker.....234-5901  
EDITOR: Larry Briggs.....345-0220  
LIBR: John Hubbard.....345-1934  
MAL: Bill Broda.....533-0148  
MAL: Inge Liggett.....344-0839  
ASST LIBR: (AMIGA).....Jim Tomlinson  
ASST LIBR: (MS-DOS).....Ken Welker  
MEMBERSHIP: Larry Briggs.....345-0220

## Treasure's Report

By Ken Welker

Balance SEPT 1, 1993.....\$355.82

I D.O.M. SALES AMIGA.....\$ 18.00  
N D.O.M. SALES IBM.....\$ 6.00  
C BLANK DISKS 3.5.....\$ 49.00  
O BLANK DISKS 5.25.....\$ 16.00  
M MEMBERSHIP.....\$ 0.00  
E 50/50 RAFFLE.....\$ 7.00  
SODA.....\$ 4.00

SEPT. INCOME.....\$100.00

E  
X FOOD & SODA.....\$ 0.00  
P NEWS LETTER.....\$ 30.30  
E POSTAGE.....\$ 11.60  
N  
S  
E  
S

SEPT.. EXPENSES.....\$41.90

CURRENT BALANCE.....\$ 413.92  
AS OF OCT.. 1, 1993

## Amiga D.O.M. Oct. 93

by Jim Tomlinson

**CHEAPFAX** - El Cheapo Fax is a very cheap and simple package to send and receive faxes using your Amiga and a suitable (Class 2) Fax modem. It is not particularly user-friendly, nor is it blazingly fast. It just does everything I need. In fact, as you and I don't need facsimile at all, it does a lot more.

**VT340 EMULATOR LIBRARY** - If you need to use your Amiga to talk to a mainframe computer that talks VT, this is the package. Any package that allows an external emulation will be able to use this package.

**MAPBOARD** - MapBoard will use the MMU to map sections of an I/O board's address space as cacheable such that things like device drivers can run in the CPU instruction caches. No memory should be used by this program. This program only is useful for 68040 based systems running KS V37.10 or later of the 68040.library.

**MULTIPRINT** - MultiPrint is a program for printing text files to both sides of a page, in multiple columns, and very small, or very large, high quality fonts. As an example of the efficiency of MultiPrint, I have printed a file which was designed to be 127 pages long. I printed it at 7 points, which is small, but is readable at 300dpi, and it took only 8 sheets of paper. Having been reformatted with the +R switch, 346 lines of the original document were printed on the first side of a sheet alone.

**RDPREP** - An update of the Microbotics Hard Disk formatting and partitioning program. May also work with other controllers as well. (No guarantees here)

**STATRAM** - STAT-RAM or 'SD0:' is a very fast recoverable ram drive that takes advantage of FFS under WB2 or FFS International under WB2.1 or 3. Based upon ASDG's Recoverable Ram Drive.

## MS-DOS D.O.M. Oct. 93

Ken Welker

### CARDGAME: KLONDIKE SOLITAIRE

Perhaps one of the most popular cards games today is solitaire. Klondike Solitaire is played using a layout as shown with the Tableau containing 28 cards initially in 7 piles. The first pile, one card; the second, two cards; and so on up to seven. The top card of each pile is face up; all others are face down.

The Foundation is built by first placing each Ace as it becomes available from the Tableau or Talon. As other cards in

suit and sequence become available, they are placed on the proper pile of the Foundation. The Object of the game is to get the four suits built onto the Foundations up to the kings.

**CLEAN 107:** **CLEAN-UP (CLEAN)** is a virus disinfection program for IBM PC and compatible computers. CLEAN searches through the partition table, boot sector, or files of a PC to remove viruses specified by the user. In most instances, CLEAN repairs infected areas of the system, restoring them to their pre-infected state. CLEAN removes all viruses identified by the current version of VIRUSCAN. CLEAN can also remove new or unknown viruses using recovery information stored by SCAN [See VIRUSCAN's documentation for details]. CLEAN runs on any PC with 400Kb and DOS 2.00 or above.

**SCAN 107:** **VIRUSCAN Version 9.18 V107** (filename SCAN.EXE) identifies all 1,613 known computer viruses and their variants. Some viruses have been modified so that more than one "strain" exists. Counting such modifications, 2,309 viruses exist. All known viruses infect one or more of the following areas: the hard disk partition table (alias Master Boot Record); the DOS Boot Sector of disks; or one or more executable files on the system. Executable files include operating system files, .COM files, .EXE files, overlay files, or any other files containing program code. A virus that infects more than one area, such as a boot sector and an executable file is called a multipartite virus. SCAN checks files, subdirectories, diskettes or entire systems for pre-existing computer virus infections. In the case of infection by a known virus, it will identify the virus infecting the system, the area(s) it was found, and the I.D. code used by CLEAN-UP to remove it.

**HERBS:** This book is offered to all—everywhere, in the hopes that, some will benefit by the often unknown and little understood, use of herbs. Herbs can be, at present, in this polluted world, one of our best friends. They not only are always available, but willing to help us in times of need, and, as a good friend, help keep us from harm. With the natural method of herbalism available, by which health may be preserved or regained,

**ORG30:** ORG is a Disk Organizer with a lot of features not found in other similar programs. In addition to the traditional function of un-fragmenting your disk, ORG will allow you to customize the sequence in which files are placed on the disk, let you "lock" (leave unchanged) any file or group of files, sort files in any directory and delete temporary files on the fly, all in a single pass. Moreover, ORG does this as fast or faster than most commercially available unfragmentation software. As you will discover when you use the program: "ORG is the only Disk Organizer that truly deserves the name!"

### PKUNZIP:

This is the latest version of Pkunzip. Use it to unzip the files on this disk.

# Diego's Diary

## - Experiences with the Amiga

Hello, hello! Anybody miss my ramblings in between newsletters? I've been keeping busy over the past month trying to create an interface for high density disk drives without much luck. I've also spent a lot of time on the "boards" so that is what I will talk about this month.

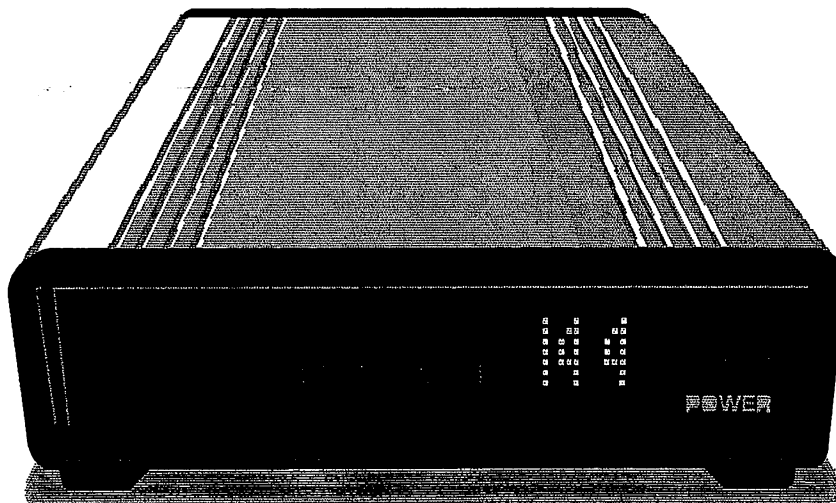
There has been some interest at our monthly meetings in acquainting and exploring the world of modems with our members. Here is a brief primer with some terminology explained... Modem is short for MODulation/DEModulation. Because telephone lines were created with the intent of carrying voice signals, the computer information that you want to transmit to another computer has to be converted from the computer electronic signal to a signal that the phone line can "hear" and this is simply what the modem does.

Because there are many ways to modulate and demodulate a signal, this is where standards come into play. Standard signals for transferring computer information at 300 bits per second all the way up to 14,400 bits per second exist so that 2 modems from 2 different manufacturers have an excellent chance of being able to "talk" to each other. Now remember that there are 8 bits in a byte so that communication speed is about 1/8th the modems connect speed. Connect speed is that number between 300 and 14,400 that the modems decided that they were going to transmit information to each other at. In reality, phone lines are quite noisy (the static you hear while talking on the phone) so most communication programs (also called terminal programs) add a start bit and a stop bit in cut down on errors during transmission.

Now that we have the modems talking to each other, the computer that you are using must have a way to send and receive information from the computer to the modem. Before the age of home computers, dedicated desktop setups existed that basically consisted a keyboard, the hardware to hook the keyboard to a display device such as a monitor or printer, and the modem. These were called terminals or "dumb terminals" because they couldn't do very much unless connected via modem to another

computer. When personal computers came out, then programs were written to emulate these dumb terminals and hence the name terminal program. A few people got the bright idea that the personal computer was capable of much more than emulating a dumb terminal so they added features like telephone directories to automatically dial phone numbers and file transfer protocols to allow transferring a program from one computer to another as rapidly as possible and with minimal fuss. These programs are now called communication programs.

On the other end of the phone line is the computer that you are calling known as the host computer. This is a place to leave messages for someone else to read, download (receive) or upload (give) the latest, greatest files or home recipes or pictures or your children, etc. The host computer becomes in effect a bulletin board for its callers to communicate indirectly with each other and exchange valuable information. In order to keep unscrupulous people from calling and deleting all the messages or files on the bulletin board, you guessed it -- programs called bulletin boards were written to allow access to only certain areas of the system and give a time limit on the call so that other people (called users) have a chance to call as well. The dedicated people that own bulletin board systems and maintain the files (making sure no viruses have infected them) are called martyrs...I mean system operators or sysops for short.



Just to keep things exciting, programmers found ways to call other computers during the wee hours of the morning (when telephone rates are low) and exchange messages. This is how networks were born. I can make a local phone call, write a message, and have it read by somebody in Australia in a couple of days and this is done at very little cost to the user

(most sysops ask for about \$20/year to help offset their telephone and electricity bills). Files can be transmitted in this way as well so if a shareware programmer wants to spread a program around for people to evaluate, all he/she has to do is upload it to a local bulletin board system and pretty soon the program has spread all over the place.

Lastly, professional, high speed, expensive (about \$20/month) networks exist as well. These tend to draw more professional users but also have better electronic mail. I can call a local phone number, get "referred" to a large computer in Boston, write a message to my brother who works for Intel in Arizona, and have him receive the message and reply within 5 minutes (assuming he is at work and at his computer). That's technology! See you next month.



Oct 1993

Gateway Computer Club

Number List

Club	Firstname	Lastname	City	St	Zip	Phone	Sig	Dues	Due
0002	James E	Tomlinson	O'Fallon	Il	62269	618-624-3872	Ami	1-Nov-93	
0003	George/Clara	McClaskey	St.Louis	Mo	63137	314-867-6848	64	1-Oct-94	
0004	Marvin	Hirschman	Lebanon	Il	62254	618-277-1485	64	1-Nov-93	
0006	Nathan M	Price	Dupo	Il	62239	618-286-3000	64	1-Dec-93	
0008	James E.	Eagen	Belleville	Il	62221	618-234-1108	64	1-May-94	
0009	Ruth M	Shaw	Collinsville	Il	62234	618-344-7589	IBM	1-Sep-94	
0011	Larry	Briggs	Collinsville	Il	62234	618-345-0220	Ami	1-Dec-93	
0012	Joel A	Hillyard	Red Bud	Il	62278	618-282-3758	Ibm	1-Jan-94	
0015	Donald	Koenig	Belleville	Il	62220	618-295-3267	64	1-Jan-94	
0016	Bob	Clark	Belleville,	Il	62223	618-397-5212	Ibm	1-May-94	
0018	Ken	Welker	Fairview Hgts.	Il	62206	618-234-5901	Ibm	1-Aug-94	
0021	Carlos B	Mariles	O'Fallon	Il	62269	618-624-2563	128	1-Feb-94	
0024	Everett	Truttmann	O'Fallon	Il	62269	618-632-4735	64	1-May-94	
0025	Ted	Hartman	Swansea	Il	62221	618-277-3546	IBM	1-Jan-94	
0026	Charles H	Trotter	Belleville	Il	62223	618-398-3220	128	1-Sep-94	
0029	Lester	Gorman	Millstadt,	Il	62260	618-476-1362	64	1-May-94	
0030	John W	Price	Millstadt	Il	62260	618-476-3567	Ibm	1-Nov-93	
0031	Emmett	Salmons	Belleville	Il	62223	618-398-4627	128	1-Nov-93	
0033	Arthur	Koenig	Belleville	Il	62220	618-234-3421	Ibm	1-Nov-93	
0039	Betty	Feigenbutz	Caseyville	Il	62232	618-398-1034	128	1-May-94	
0041	Tom	McDonald	Collinsville	Il	62234	618-344-8017	IBM	1-May-94	
0042	Eula & Ted	Schmidt	O'Fallon	Il	62269	618-632-6358	64	1-May-94	
0043	Kenneth M	Jeffress	Belleville	Il	62221	618-234-4113	128	1-Jun-94	
0044	Juanita	Welker	Belleville	Il	62221	618-234-5901	64	1-Sep-94	
0046	Bill	Jacks	Fairview Hgts.	Il	62208	618-398-5383	Ibm	1-Feb-94	
0047	Inge	Liggett	Caseyville	Il	62232	618-344-0839	Ibm	1-Feb-94	
0048	John W	Hubbard	Caseyville	Il	62232	618-345-1934	Ami	1-Mar-94	
0049	Diego	Cardenas	O'Fallon	Il	62269	618-624-6493	Ami	1-Jan-94	
0050	Norman.F	Collins	Caseyville,	Il	62232	618-397-5084	ami	1-Mar-94	
0051	Brian	Goedelman	Belleville	Il	62220	618-233-4321	Ami	1-Mar-94	
0052	Leonard	Moore	Fairview Hgts	Il	62208	618-397-4787	ami	1-Mar-94	
0062	Earl	Salmons	Fairview Hgts	Il	62208	618-397-5029	App	1-Jan-99	

## MINUTES

By John Hubbard

Meeting was opened at 7:15pm by Vice President Diego Cardenas.

Jim Tomlinson gave a very good demo on modem's for I.B.M. and Amiga, thanks Jim.

We want to welcome Larry Briggs back from England, good to have you back Larry.

When you bring a visitor to our meeting we will send the visitor three month's of Bits & Chips.

Every one try to bring a visitor with them to this meeting.

The Treasure's report was accepted as printed in Bits & Chips.

The Minutes were accepted as printed in Bits & Chips.

We also had a good demo on Apple and a demo on Amiga three demo's in all a big thanks to all the club members who worked so hard on these demo's.

President Taphorn closed the meeting at 8:09pm.

## Editor's Notes

By Larry Briggs

Hi, I'm back., I was gone for 14 days, 10 days in London England and 4 days in Florida at my daughters home. We had a very good time, we stayed at a very nice hotel, a good location near the underground "TUBE", Buses and Taxi cabs. Walking distant from "McDonald's and Kentucky fried Chicken". There were also a Pub where we had lunch, they had a variety of sandwiches, either ale, or Lager beers, the ale was dark brown and served at room temp. the Lager was kept on Ice. If you ever go to England you must visit a PUB.

We took a 300 mile round trip by Bus, to Bath and Stonehenge, both are a must place to see. Bath was built by the Romans and is very picturesque, the town itself is very quaint, narrow cobblestone streets, and small shops and restaurants. Do not ask for ICE for your soft drink, they do not have any. As a mater of fact you must ask for ice in drinking water served in restaurants.

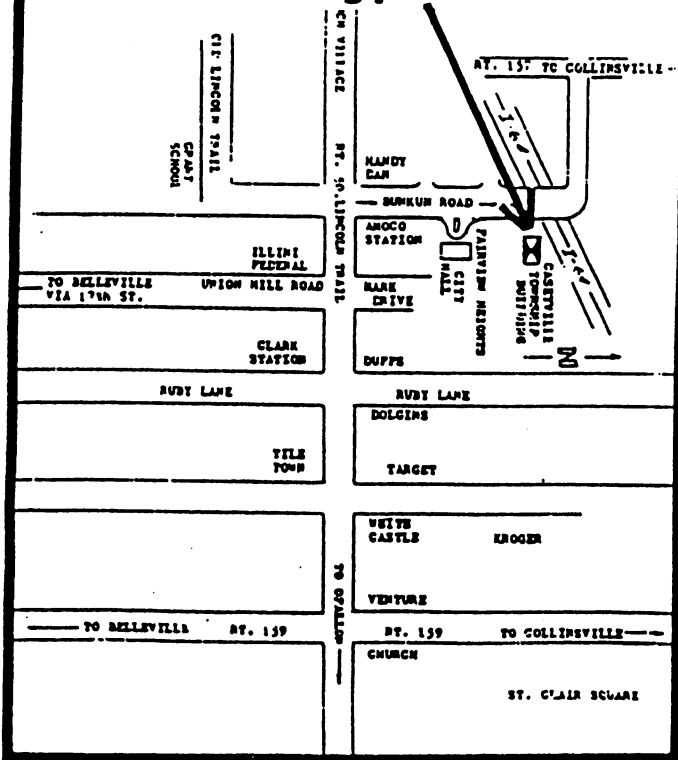
We took a tour on an open top bus to see the city, saw the wax museum, about 5 Castles, some Cathedrals, tour on the Thames river. Two theater dinners. And much more. When I got home I was completely tired out. J E T L A G.

As you can see, Ken Welker put together a very good IBM D.O.M this month, let's see how many of these will sell this month, if you do not support him he has indicated he will stop making them up each month.

**Wanted To Buy**  
**A IBM or Clone 386SX Computer with**  
**Color Monitor, Hard drive and Printer.**  
**Call Ruth Shaw 344-7589**



## Gateway Computer Club meeting place



## GCC Directory

### Next Meeting:

OCT. 20th 1993 7:00pm

### Next Exec. Bd. Meeting:

Nov 3rd 1993 at 7:00pm  
at the Western Sizzlin  
Fairview Heights Il.

### Next Copy Session:

At all REGULAR MEETINGS.

### Visitors Always Welcome

### At Meetings

Meetings are held the third Wednesday of every  
month at the Caseyville Township Hall, 10010  
Bunkum Road in Fairview Heights



**GATEWAY COMPUTER CLUB**  
**P.O. Box 1839**  
**Fairview Heights, IL 62208**



Check your dues date!

# First Class

# ***Bits & Chips***

## **of the Gateway Computer Club**

**Volume 10**

**November 1993**

**Number 11**

### **Editor's Notes**

By Larry Briggs

We seem to lose as many club members each month as new members join. It sure would be nice if the current members would reup, and new members join so that we could get our membership up to at least 75. Let's all try to bring in at least one new member, that would get the club to near one hundred. We need help from all of you, so do your best and see if we can increase the membership. I'm sure that it will do all of us good to have someone new to discuss computing.

At our December 15th meeting, we will again have a Christmas party. It has been decided that we will have all of the members bring one item, "Bread, Meat, Cheese, Olives, Onions, Radishes, Cookies, Cake, or any other goodies you can think of." The club will provide the drinks. (No alcohol). The club has done this before and has been successful. Please let the committee know what you are bringing so that we do not wind up with too much of the same thing. The sign up sheet will be at the front table.

Election of officers will be coming up, so if anyone will want to run for an office, step right up and be counted. There have been some talk of changing the format of the officers. We think we do not need as many as we have had. Let's have a discussion about this at our next meeting.

At the Board meeting Nov.3rd a pole was made, and all of the present Officers agreed to another term, however, anyone who wishes to run for an office may enter his/her nomination at the Nov. 17th meeting and an election will be held.

### **MINUTES**

By John Hubbard

Meeting opened at 7:10 pm by President Mike Taphorn.

We had more very good Demo's at the last meeting, if you did not make that meeting you missed out.

We would like to know if anyone can get old games from the Atari computer like Donkey

Kong...Space Invaders....Mouse Trap..... There were a lot of them, we would like to have them run on the Amiga.

WELCOME to new members that joined last meeting, Ken Nochta, and a former member, Laura Blackwell.

The Treasurer's report was accepted as printed in the Bits & Chips.

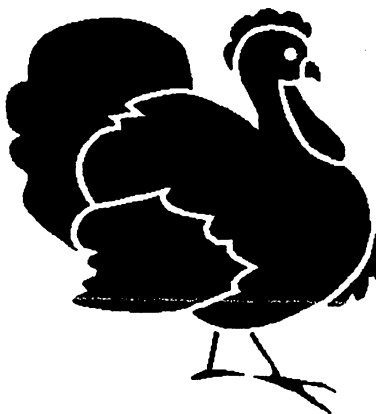
The Minutes were accepted as printed in the Bits & Chips.

If you have any question's about anything with your computer or software, make yourself a note and ask the question at the next meeting, or write your question and give it to the Editor, Larry Briggs, and he will print it in the Bits & Chips.

Christmas: It will be here sooner than you think, at the December meeting we will have our usual Christmas party. We will do the same as last year, everyone brought some food and we had a feast. At the November meeting we will have a clipboard to pass around so you can sign up and to let us know what you will be bringing..

Thanksgiving: Everyone have a WONDERFUL time on Turkey day.

The President closed the business meeting at 8:04pm. After a short recess there was an Demonstration on the Amiga by Diego Cardenas. "How to make music on a Keyboard".



# Reports

## The Club

The Gateway Computer Club is a not for profit organization of like-minded computer users. Membership fee is \$15.00 per year. Members receive access to the club's public domain library, educational programs, literature and monthly Bits & Chips Newsletter.

Direct all membership applications and questions to the Gateway Computer Club c/o P.O.Box 1839, Fairview Heights, IL 62206.

Only public domain programs are kept in the G.C.C. library. Reproduction of copyrighted software is not promoted nor condoned by the G.C.C. and will not be tolerated at club functions.

## Bits & Chips

Please direct all submissions and advertising to Editor Larry Briggs, 1021 Lafayette Ct. Collinsville, IL 62234. Camera ready advertising must be received by the first of the month to be included in the issue of the month.

Rates are as follows: Full page- \$15.00, Half page- \$7.50, Quarter page- \$3.75, and business card- \$10.00 for 6 months.

Contents of the Bits & Chips may be reprinted by other club newsletters if accompanied by the author's name and credit is given to the GATEWAY COMPUTER CLUB. The G.C.C. assumes no liability for errors in articles or advertisements.

## Membership Report

Larry Briggs

As of November 1st.-1993 we have 39 active members in our club.

Lets all give a big welcome to new members. Scott Leathers, Ken Nohta, and the return of a former member, Laura Blackwell.

THANKS AGAIN for continuing their membership with us. John Sundstrom, Richard Koerper, Richard Collins, and Mike Taphorn.

I would like to inform these members that their membership will expire this Coming meeting. James Tomlinson, Marvin Hirschman, John Price, Emmett Salmons, and Arthur Koenig.

These Members will be dropped as they have not renewed their membership. William Broda, Gerald W. Powers, And John Koen.

If you have any questions about your membership, See Larry Briggs at the meeting, or call 345-0220.

## The Officers

PRES: Mike Taphorn.....345-2197  
V.P.: Diego Cardenas.....624-6493  
SEC: John Hubbard.....345-1934  
TRES: Ken Welker.....234-5901  
EDITOR: Larry Briggs.....345-0220  
LIBR: John Hubbard.....345-1934  
MAL: Bill Broda.....533-0148  
MAL: Inge Liggett.....344-0839  
ASST LIBR: (AMIGA).....Jim Tomlinson  
ASST LIBR: (MS-DOS).....Ken Welker  
MEMBERSHIP: Larry Briggs.....345-0220

## Treasure's Report

By Ken Welker

Balance Oct 1, 1993.....\$413.92

I D.O.M. SALES.AMIGA.....\$ 16.00  
N D.O.M. SALES IBM.....\$ 14.00  
C BLANK DISKS 3.5.....\$ 27.50  
O BLANK DISKS 5.25.....\$ 0.00  
M MEMBERSHIP.....\$135.00  
E 50/50 RAFFLE.....\$ 6.00  
SODA.....\$ 0.00

OCT. INCOME.....\$198.50

E  
X FOOD & SODA.....\$ 0.00  
P NEWS LETTER.....\$ 30.30  
E POSTAGE.....\$ 11.60  
N  
S  
E  
S

OCT .. EXPENSES.....\$41.90

CURRENT BALANCE.....\$ 570.52  
AS OF NOV.. 1, 1993

## Amiga D.O.M. Nov. 93

by Jim Tomlinson

**Blaster** - A neat game like galaxian.

**BROWSER II** - Browser II is a MS2.0 or above directory utility. Browser II works exactly like workbench. To copy files, you just have to select them and to drag them over the destination directory. It's power is far above other file manager tools which are able to display only to directories, and are full of useless gadgets which clutter up more than the half of the screen display. We think that menus are more adapted to commands not often used, and keyboard shortcuts quicker than gadgets for regular operations.

**DEFTONE** - This program is designed to teach YOU the user how to read relatively simple scores of music like those in 'So You Want To Be a Musician' books. But, it also helps to recognize notes by ear, which might help you write your own 'So You Want To Be a Musician' book someday.

**ICONMAGIC** - If you like making and editing ICONS then this simple and intuitive program is for you. All documentation is built in.

**ParM** - ParM stands for parametrable Menu. ParM allows you to build your own menus in order to run all the programs you can have on one or more disks. This is very useful for hard disk owners who have programs deeply enclosed in subdirectories. With ParM, you can run them without going through directories under either WorkBench or CLI. With ParM, you can start programs in either WorkBench or CLI mode. The advantage of Workbench mode is that the default directory of the program you run is the one in which the program file is. But not all programs can be run in this mode. This program requires KS2.04 or higher.

**SSV1.0** - The world of Startup-Sequence isn't that hard if only one person is working with your Amiga. But what if your girlfriend wants to play around the Amiga world ?????. Now you got the answer to this little problem: Startup-Sequence Selector ! What does it do ? It simply looks at

your mouse & Joystick buttons and starts a selected Startup-Sequence. The Startup-Sequence Selector executes a numbered startup-sequence (in the s: drawer).

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## MS-DOS D.O.M. Nov. 93

Ken Welker

### DARK AGES.ZIP

Dark Ages is a brilliant arcade/adventure game with superb graphics and animation. It is also the first shareware game to support both Ad Lib and Sound Blaster, the two leading sound cards.

The graphics in Dark Ages are so demanding that the game will not run fast enough on old, slow 8088 and 8086 based PCs. You will need an 80286, an 80386 or a faster processor to play Dark Ages at its best.

It is also recommended that you play Dark Ages with as few TSRs as possible running, else you might experience keyboard problems.

### DAZZLE

THESE PD/SHAREWARE PROGRAMS  
RECEIVED FROM AC THRIFT, O'FALLON IL  
INITIAL FLOPPY CONTAINS THE  
EXECUTABLES LISTED COMPILED BY R L  
COLLINS ON 10/15/93

---

**ROLEX** (Rolex Watch / Clock)  
**TIGGS** (CherylTiggsRolexWatchVariation)  
**EXPLOSIV** (Fireworks Show & Screen Saver -  
Read the Docs)  
**AQUARIUM** (Watch the fishies!)  
**VFISH4** (Watch even more fishies!)  
**DAZZLE** (Kaleidoscope simulator)  
**TUNNEL** (Alice in Wonderland Effect)  
**LUMEN** (Random VGA boxes)  
**GATEWAY** (Char Graphics Promo by R L Collins  
with C source code)

# Diego's Diary

## - Experiences with the Amiga

In preparation for an upcoming demo (probably a past demo by the time you read this), I'm going to talk about the Miracle Piano Teacher. I bought this about a year ago for my wife as a Christmas present. She tends to have a very musical ear and even though she is not good at reading sheet music, she can learn to play a song by tapping the keys of a piano in concert with a recorded song.

I on the other had, played the clarinet for about 4 years and even though I could read sheet music, I might as well be tone deaf. Therefore, the Miracle sounded (pun intended) like a good investment for both of us.

The Amiga system cost about \$325 mail order. It came with a 50 key keyboard (a piano has 88 keys for comparison) that could be played independently of being hooked up to the computer. It is connected to the computer via a special serial port cable but also comes with MIDI in and MIDI out ports for those who want a more sophisticated system. All in all, the hardware is worth about \$150. So why pay more than twice that amount? The software is why.

The Miracle software comes on like 7 discs and as you might imagine -- a hard drive is highly recommended. Two manuals help you get started. However, the software makes excellent use of the Amiga Intuition operating system so that drawings explain things well and point and click operations are rather, well, intuitive. After entering your name as a pupil, you're off to some easy lessons. Music theory is introduced slowly as you learn to play some simple 1 finger type songs. Chords for the left hand are then introduced and proper timing of the played notes so that the keys you hit sound like a melody.

Soon, you are playing some real songs with only a little practice! I am now working on America, The Beautiful again after not having played for a few months. To help with lessons, some fun games are included. To help with chords (3 finger combinations of notes that tend to sound well when played at the same time), a game called RipChord is played. Three parachutists jump out of an airplane and unless you hit

the right 3 keys, these guys will go splat on the ground without their parachutes opening.

Another game is the shooting gallery. This helps you get your hands use to being on the right keys in the right order. Ducks come out of the right side of the screen at a level corresponding to a particular note. By hitting the right key, you kill the duck. The next duck corresponds to the next note in the song that you are trying to learn how to play and so on.

Each lesson teaches only a small amount of a given song or part of music theory so that you are not being overwhelmed. After a song is mastered with the right melody, chords, timing, etc., then you are off to the concert hall where you give a performance accompanied by the whole orchestra instead of just a ticking metronome. A certificate can be printed afterwards to show completion of that step. Each step has about 20-30 lessons to help learn the song and there are about 48 steps included with the program.

Also included are additional songs. Each step has 2 additional songs that you should be able to play with just a minimal amount of practice. The publisher of the Miracle Piano Teaching System also publishes additional songs but I do not know if they pick up where the original left off or not. A jukebox is included to hear all these songs without you having to learn how to play them as well.

Overall, a good investment if you are interested in learning how to play the piano or just want to learn some music theory. Systems are available for the Macintosh, IBM compatible computers, and for the Nintendo Entertainment System as well. Any questions? Hope you caught my demo then.

---

There will not be a presidents page this month as Mike Taphorn and his wife was in the midst of moving into a new home and his computer was in a box. Look for a two page article next month.

We all wish you both to be happy in your new home.

If anyone has been waiting for the Commodore CD32 unit, forget it until after the first of the year. I called three computer stores that handle commodore products and was told they do not expect any shipment of CD32's until the new year. looks to me Commodore should have had them out for Christmas...

## **HELLO FROM THE PRES.!**

I mentioned at the end of my last article that I was going to move. Well, I uprooted my Amigas and moved to a new house (As soon as we get done unpacking I'll call it a home.). I picked out the biggest room in the house to be my computer room. I finally have enough room for all of my computer equipment. I plan on having the Amigas on one ten foot table and the C64 and game machines on another table on the other side of the room. I haven't got everything hooked up yet but Larry threatened to write my article for me so I quickly connected up my computers and started typing. Enough about me...

### **ELECTIONS ???**

I was informed that we should have been taking nominations for the elections that normally happen in the month of November. So make sure you show up at the November meeting or else you might miss the nominations and the elections. The board members that I have had working with me have all done a great job in the past and I heard from a little bird that they all love being board members so much that they all plan on running for re-election. I on the other hand have to graciously decide to run again also. Almost got you there didn't I. If you are interested in becoming a board member, please come to the meeting because we need a little healthy competition to keep us honest.

### **We Need A Librarian**

Do you love to order people around and throw your weight behind every word you speak?

Sorry, we don't need anyone like that...but we do need someone to take over as librarian. The two disk of the month people will be working under you (But I wouldn't try telling them what to do, they're mean.). John Hubbard has done a good job as Librarian & Secretary but he only wants to run for one office this year. He said he'll run for secretary and let someone else take over the librarian position. The librarian gets to take home all of the clubs public domain software whenever he/she likes. There really isn't a lot to do but we should have someone dedicated to the librarian position full-time. If you're interested, come to the next meeting and nominate yourself to be the librarian.

### **The Call Of Doom...**

If your membership is about to run out, you'll probably be getting a call from me. I thought it would be a good idea to call the people who are dropping out of the club to find out why they aren't signing up for another year. I'll give a monthly report on what I find out at the regular meetings. Be careful or I may be calling you.

## **Yeah Larry!!!**

Larry got the clubs membership list organized into alphabetical order. Thanks Larry.

## **Food For Christmas**

Everyone make sure you come to the November meeting with a great idea for food to bring to the Christmas Party this year. We need more food volunteers. Thanks to all who have already signed up.

## **Cool Exciting Demonstrations**

I went to the Amiga show last month that the Gateway Amiga Club put on over in St. Louis. I picked up a Toaster demonstration tape that shows off some of the features of the video toaster. Our vice president, Diego, promised to bring a VCR to the November meeting so everyone can watch the demo after the regular meeting.

## **Also on tap for November,**

Jim Tomlinson is going to continue his modem demonstration by showing how to use a modem on the Amiga.

## **Flyers / Video Demo**

We discussed creating a flyer or demo for the club for distribution at local computer stores. I would like to put together a team of members to design and distribute the flyers/demos. Please contact me at the next meeting if you are interested in helping in the design or distribution process. Thanks for your support.

## **The Ever Changing Meeting**

If you are reading this, you know that I tend to get long winded, or typed, at times. A few members said they really like the demos and open session at the end of the meetings, but they don't care about all the other business mumbo jumbo and question and answer sessions on each platform when they have questions concerning their computers that they could use some personal help with. Well, the board members decided to try a new meeting plan that may help increase the fun and decrease the pain. If you want to hear about the new meeting structure, ask during the new business section of the November meeting and I'll tell you what it's all about. If on the other hand you didn't read this far into my article or you fell asleep halfway through, I'll tell you at the next meeting anyway.

See you at the next meeting...  
I promise it won't be as long as this article.

## A Personal 10+ Year History of Computing Richard L Collins

My very first computer experiences were on an IBM 360 using punched cards at Belleville Area College. This was in 1973 right after I had gotten out of the Air Force after 4 years. Some of the classes were cancelled, so I went for an accounting degree.

My first personal computer experience was selling the TRS 80 Model I for Radio Shack. It included a cassette recorder 80 x 24 monochrome screen, and 88 character keyboard. For those of you who are interested, the TRS stands for Tape Recording System. This system had 4K of ram and basic programming that could only handle 2 strings and no arrays, and all of this for \$499. I acquired one of them and the first week I had it I was up till 3 or 4 in the morning fascinated by it. After a week, I literally collapsed for a day and had finally found something which held my interest.

Incidentally, I recently acquired another one of these computers for \$25, and I located 2 cassette programs for my nostalgia trip. The programs are Galactic Empire and Invasion Force. The TRS-80 required an expansion interface (\$299) before you could hook up a disk drive although it does have a centronics parallel port built in.

I loaded cassettes and typed in basic programs blissfully for nearly three years, then I discovered the joys of a floppy disk drive. Apple, Atari, and VIC 20 were also in the stream at that time. When Commodore introduced a COLOR computer which used a cpu chip nearly the same as the Apple, at a much less cost, I jumped on the C-64 wagon. I never did much programming on it; I did type in some programs, and also hacked and cracked a few, but had a very good time playing games on it. I used the C64 off and on throughout the years that followed.

IBM entered the microcomputer field and gave Bill Gates the boost he needed to build his empire. Initially, IBM PC users were viewed as rich and nieve. The egg was cracked when Compaq and others were able to duplicate the IBM BIOS without infringing on the copyright. This is what opened up the floodgates of competition and brought us to the IBM Format world that dominates now. I acquired a Leading Edge Model D about 1985 and was not impressed by it, except for running DBASE III and Lotus 1-2-3.

When Commodore introduced the Amiga, VGA IBM Color was extremely costly, and I had some good experiences with the C64. The Amiga 1000 had been out about a year and I had moved to Alton about 1986. I went to my first East Side Computer Club meeting and continued with my C64 for the next year. Mike Sommers brought in his Amiga 1000 and I was astounded by Defender of the Crown. I immediately bought an Amiga and shipped ALL of the C64 junk, hardware and software, to my younger brother without even telling him he was getting it.

I copied 100 Fred Fish disks to get a software collection started and have been adding to it ever since. The Amiga 2000, a few more 500s, an Amiga 1000, an Amiga 4000, and a few more Amiga 500's later leaves me with the presently 3 500's, a 1000, a 2000, a 4000, and I'm considering an Amiga 600 to replace the all-in-1-case luggable Amiga 500 I constructed a while back.

Professionally, I started work as a computer programmer/operator in 1981 for EVCO National and Brighton Painting Company. They bought a Burroughs B-80 Mini Computer. This piece of junk had 512K and the dual removable disk drives had 2 megabyte platters that were twelve inches across, \$75 apiece. The system required continual switching of them so that is what I did. When we were offered a deal on an 80 meg hard drive (2' x 3' x 4') regular \$12,000 now only \$3,000 we jumped on it. The small hard drives were just coming out. We also bought a desk sized (not desk top) B-91s, an upgrade to the B-80 minicomputer.

All the programs, data, and operating system software transferred over smoothly. I was also doing some programming on the IBM for a trucking company and others at the time. Our company acquired its first few PC's from me. I also taught some Computer Logic classes,

Intro to DP, RPG, and Basic at this time.

In the middle of 1991, we decided to replace the aging system.

We must have looked at 30 different software packages, as Burroughs had become Unisys and no longer supported our system. I had conned them out of the source code and an RPG and COBOL compiler and fixed the code to meet the changing needs. Rocky Eveans, the owner, asked

me to finally make a decision. I told him to buy a Unix (not Unisys) based operating system, since it was designed for mulit-users from the first days of its existence. Also, it was faster than MS-DOS and more efficient and could support more users than MS-DOS.

Selecting this route we manually converted the old data to the new system. I used about 80 secretary hours to do this. I simply ran a green bar on the old system, and showed the girls where and what to fill in on the new one. After the conversion, I shut off the old one (never to turn it on again) turn on the new one and start computing!

I said we should get a 386 PC for everybody to use as a personal local system and use the Unix for the cost accounting packages. This meant the only shared resources was accounting information. Everyone could emulate a terminal, log on to the system, update it, and then go back to their local system for word processing, estimating, analyzing, or whatever they do, or, as in the case of the owner, the Solitaire Master. We were not interested in sharing resources with respect to documents, especially construction bids. Also, since the building is small we simply can walk a file from one system to another on a disk.

The second company, Brighton Painting is located about 3 or 4 miles distant. We used an SPX-5 Multiplexer tied to a 9600 Baud Hayes Modem to link them to the central computer accounting system. It does have its faults (I call it the Weak Link Network) but functions. The problem, so very common in the industry today, came when I asked about putting them in. The vendor said they would put them in place and set them up. The idiot that came out, knew less about serial links than I. His final conclusion, after 8 hours of fruitless effort was the modems were incompatible with the muxes. He also said he would not bill me for his eight hours. Thanks anyway, buddy, but you would not get paid even if you did send a bill. I still had to make it work.

I studied modems, muxes, and phone lines the next week and finally got them working together. I was very pleased with that small success. Who was it that said the muxes and modems were incompatible?

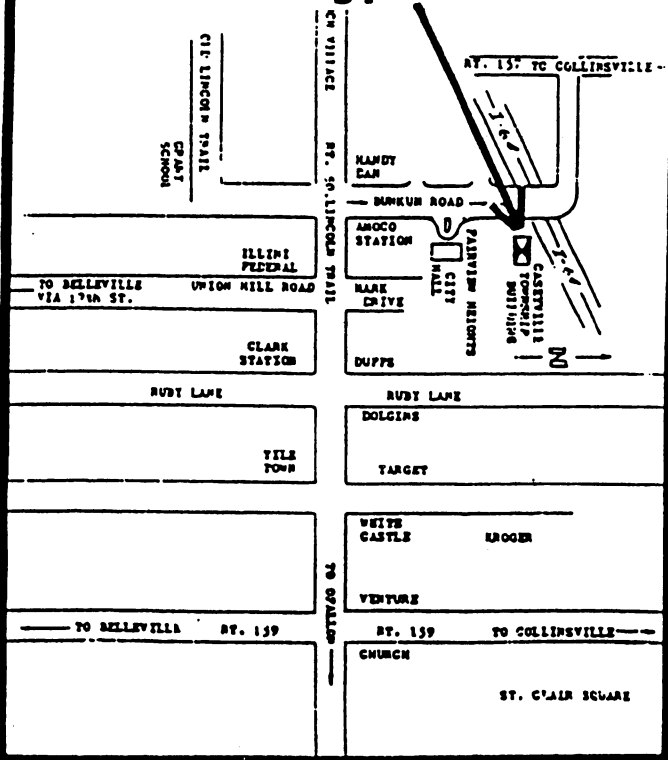
I'm still mad at the techie too because he got my Cross Talk Comm book and never returned it. He denied having it, of course, but lying and incompetence go hand in hand.

Recent personal computing hardware acquisitions include a 386 with 4 megs of ram, maxing my 4000 to 18 megs of 32 bit ram, a CDTV and keyboard, and an Amiga 500 with a 40 meg hard drive. Coupled with the Amiga software collection I have (thousands of titles), I feel like I am in good shape.

I also feel the 586 and 68060 are overkill. These chips will be made and sold to companies and businesses. They are not and will not be part of main stream American home computing, as long as 386's and 486's are built and they provide CD ROM support. Of course, the plan is to stop making 386's and 486's leaving the 586/Pentium as the only choice, assuming you want a computer. At least Intel does not have a monopoly on the market, which is probably why Apple and Commodore are in the shape that they are in.



## Gateway Computer Club meeting place



## GCC Directory

### Next Meeting:

November 17th 1993 7:00pm

### Next Exec. Bd. Meeting:

Dec 1st. 1993 at 7:00pm  
At the Western Sizzlin  
Fairview Heights Il.

### Next Copy Session:

AT ALL REGULAR MEETINGS

### Visitors Always Welcome

### At Meetings

Meetings are held the third Wednesday of every month at the Caseyville Township Hall, 10010 Bunkum Road in Fairview Heights



**GATEWAY COMPUTER CLUB**  
P.O. Box 1839  
Fairview Heights, IL 62208



Check your dues date!

# First Class

# ***Bits & Chips***

## **of the Gateway Computer Club**

Volume 10

December 1993

Number 12

### **President's Page**

by Mike Taphorn

#### **Hello From The Pres!**

#### **New Board (not bored) Member...**

A new board member was elected at the last meeting...Dick Koerper, a former president of the club, ran for Librarian and had an unprecedented, unanimous, landslide victory. Whew! Too many big words and commas for one sentence! Anyway he now has the job of organizing our disk libraries and cataloging all the disks. When (If) he gets that done we'll find something else to keep him busy.

Thanks for running Dick and welcome to the board.

#### **Christmas Is In The Air**

As most of you already know, we are having our big christmas party at the December meeting. If you signed up to bring food, please be sure to bring it. Last time we had a lot of goodies for everyone. It should be a lot of fun. See you there...HO HO HO

#### **Flyers ...Videos... Demos...**

We're still looking for anyone interested in designing a flyer, video demo, or computer demo that we could give to the local computer stores. If we advertise where the computer users are, we'll probably get more users to join up.

#### **News From The Past**

Jim Tomlinson has been filling in the holes

in our Fred Fish collection with the help of a few of our members. He'll have the latest greatest disks at the next meeting.

Jim also said that he was still going to look into ordering the Famous Postcardman documentation disks that were discussed a few meetings ago. We'll get an update on the disks from Jim at the next meeting.

#### **Volunteers**

Food: Everyone  
Demos: Jim T.- Christmas Music  
Computer: John Hubbard &  
Diego Cardenas

If you have something you would like to demonstrate, feel free to volunteer for future demonstrations.

#### **Game Of The Month**

We talked about it before... I plan on bringing a special Christmas game to the next meeting that we should all be able to play.

#### **Software Software Software**

I think everyone enjoyed having software available at the last couple meetings. I'll try to bring another box of stuff to share with everyone at the next meeting. Please bring your new stuff too so I don't run out of things to do.

#### **P.S.**

Dick, Don't Call Me...I'll Call You...NOT

See You At The Christmas Party!!!!

# Reports

## The Club

The Gateway Computer Club is a not for profit organization of like-minded computer users. Membership fee is \$15.00 per year. Members receive access to the club's public domain library, educational programs, literature and monthly Bits & Chips Newsletter.

Direct all membership applications and questions to the Gateway Computer Club c/o P.O.Box 1839, Fairview Heights, IL 62206.

Only public domain programs are kept in the G.C.C. library. Reproduction of copyrighted software is not promoted nor condoned by the G.C.C. and will not be tolerated at club functions.

## The Officers

PRES: Mike Taphorn.....345-2197  
V.P.: Diego Cardenas.....624-6493  
SEC: John Hubbard.....345-1934  
TRES: Ken Welker.....234-5901  
EDITOR: Larry Briggs.....345-0220  
LIBR: Richard Koerper.....452-5110  
ASST LIBR: (AMIGA).....Jim Tomlinson  
ASST LIBR: (MS-DOS).....Ken Welker  
MEMBERSHIP: Larry Briggs.....345-0220

## Bits & Chips

Please direct all submissions and advertising to Editor Larry Briggs, 1021 Lafayette Ct. Collinsville, IL 62234. Camera ready advertising must be received by the first of the month to be included in the issue of the month.

Rates are as follows: Full page- \$15.00, Half page- \$7.50, Quarter page- \$3.75, and business card- \$10.00 for 6 months.

Contents of the Bits & Chips may be reprinted by other club newsletters if accompanied by the author's name and credit is given to the GATEWAY COMPUTER CLUB. The G.C.C. assumes no liability for errors in articles or advertisements.

## Membership Report

Larry Briggs

As of December 1st.-1993 we have 40 active members in our club.

Lets all give a big welcome to new members. Dave Dawson, Jeff Miller, and the return of Tony Burke to the club.

THANKS AGAIN for continuing their membership with us. Jim Tomlinson, John Price, Marvin Hirschman, and Larry Briggs.

I would like to inform these members that their membership will expire this Coming meeting. NONE

This Member will be dropped as he has not renewed his membership. Emmett Salmons.

If you have any questions about your membership, See Larry Briggs at the meeting, or call 345-0220.

## Treasure's Report

By Ken Welker

### TREASURE'SREPORT

Balance Nov.1,1993.....\$570.52

I D.O.M. SALES AMIGA.....\$ 24.00  
N D.O.M. SALES IBM.....\$ 20.00  
C BLANK DISKS 3.5.....\$ 44.50  
O BLANK DISKS 5.25.....\$ 0.00  
M MEMBERSHIP.....\$ 60.00  
E 50/50 RAFFLE.....\$ 10.00

NOV. INCOME.....\$171.00

E  
X  
P NEWS LETTER.....\$ 30.85  
E POSTAGE.....\$ 17.40

N  
S  
E  
S

NOV. EXPENSES.....\$ 48.25

CURRENT BALANCE.....\$693.27  
AS OF DEC. 1, 1993

## Amiga D.O.M. Dec. 93

by Jim Tomlinson

**COLUMNS** - This utility allows you to control your printer in a more efficient way - you can print the text in columns and use various compression modes (up to 160 characters per line and 180 lines per standard DIN A4 page - cca 5.6 times more characters than in usual modes, but still readable...).

**DIGILUSIONS** - Digital illusions is a professional quality image processing program that features true "tweening" to make animations.

**GAMMON** - Gammon is a computer version of the famous backgammon game, that can substitute up to two human players. "Save settings" writes your favourite settings concerning colors, computer opponent, starting position etc. to the file "Gammon.INI", which will be read next time you start the program.

**MINERUNNER** - Yet Another Lode Runner Clone? Yes, but wait! Mine Runner is a special one! Nearly original play feeling! Nearly original graphics! Nearly original sound effects! Selected original levels! Up to four player simultaneous game! Supports four player joystick adapter! Supports two button joysticks! Doesn't stop multitasking! Saves highscores! Freeware - You can copy it for non-commercial purpose!

**UDT** - Upper Disk Tools is an Amiga software package designed to help the user to handle problems that he may have with AmigaDOS disks. One of the programs of the package is a file retrieval program named Recovery. Recovery is a program that is based on a new concept to recover deleted or lost files from either corrupted or normal disks. This new concept is based in a method that is a novelty in the way that deleted files can be retrieved from disks.

**VIC-20** - If you ever longed for the VIC 20 again and didn't want to pull it out of the closet; here it is!

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## MS-DOS D.O.M. Dec. 93

Ken Welker

This D.O.M. was made by Tom McDonald.

**CDIR.ZIP** A useful full color directory for your screen to make it easier to read. Resides in DOS.

**MSD.ZIP** Microsoft Diagnostic program. Should be installed in DOS. Also to be called upon whenever needed.

**PKUNZIP.EXE** Just in case you are without a program to unzip these programs....

**CHINESE.ZIP** Chinese checkers for DOS. The real

thing!

**REMIND.ZIP** A handy reminder calendar program...read docs, can activate upon boot and be resident. DOS Version.

**SILENT.ZIP** CMF music file for those with Soundblaster compatible.

**ZIPKEY.ZIP** Want to know a Zip Code or area Code fast? This is it! Can also be made resident. DOS version.

\* **HANDY1.ZIP** A really great program for the handyman/woman. Helps estimate materials and cut costs. WINDOWS Version.

\* (This Windows program should be unzipped first with VBRUN100.D11 program installed into Windows path...program also needed to run others on this disk.)

**FONTSHOW.ZIP** Font viewing and cataloging for Microsoft Windows. \* also needs the VBRUN100.D11 file from above to run.

**ICREATOR.ZIP** Great Icon Editor for Microsoft Windows.

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## MINUTES

By John Hubbard

Meeting for Nov. 93 opened at 7:03pm  
by Pres. Taphorn

Editor Report and Minutes and Tres.  
Report Membership report was accepted as  
printed in the Bits & Chips.

Election of Officers:

Pres No contest Mike Taphorn

Vice Pres: No contest Diego Cardenas

Sec. No contest John Hubbard

Editor: No contest Larry Briggs

Liberian: From John Hubbard to new

Liberian Rich Koerper.

Asst. Libr. No contest (AMIGA) Jim Tomlinson.

Asst. Libr. No contest (MS-DOS) Ken Welker

Membership: No contest Larry Briggs.

Motion was made by Tom McDonnell for all officers to stay in their positions and to add to the list of officers the new Liberian Rich Koerper. The motion was made and second and passed.

Christmas Party: We will have a fun time at our Christmas party. Every one signed up to bring food. If you were here last year., you won't want to miss this year it was FUN.

Pres. Taphorn closed the meeting at  
7:35pm

# LIBRARIANS REPORT

By Dick Koerper

Well this is my first librarians report and the most interesting thing that I have to say is that I really don't have anything to report at this time. If I know Jim and Ken the disks of the month will be taken care of and the biggest problem that I am going to have this year is to catalog the library. I was going to use the Dewey Decimal System but when I called him he admitted to me that he was just kidding so I will have to come up with my own system. So in lieu of a Librarians report I would like to have a brief discussion of the role of computers with the handicapped.

I have been working with the mentally and physically challenged for eight years now and the computer has turned out to be a very powerful tool.

Most of us probably realize that one of the biggest advantages that computers give us in education is their infinite patience. This attribute is needed nowhere more than in the field of Special Education. No matter how slow the client is in responding, or how many times the material has to be repeated until it is mastered, the computer calmly waits for a response or carefully keeps repeating the material time and time again never becoming impatient or belligerent with the client.

Quite a few of the clients that I have worked with are physically as well as mentally handicapped, but with the use of the computer and adaptive equipment doors are being opened daily, contact is being established and channels of communication are being opened that it was impossible to establish before. It is rather exciting to be sitting next to a woman with cerebral palsy whose dream is to be able to write a book concerning her life with cerebral palsy. This is a dream that she believes will never come true, that is until she is introduced to a computer with a word processor, scanning software, and a switch to control it all by the slightest movement of her hand. And to think that when it comes to this technology we haven't even begun to see the tip of the iceberg.

Well that's enough for now, if there seems to be an interest in the subject of computers and the handicapped I will be more than happy to write more.

Dick Koerper

# FAMILY GATHERINGS

Christmas is a family day, and feasting is a part of the celebration. Foods of the season include turkey, goose, duck, fish, roast beef and an abundance of the other good things people enjoy when they eat, drink, and are merry. In some European countries the old custom of serving a roast suckling pig with an apple in its mouth still observed to day.

In Germany and the Netherlands the favorite dish is roast goose prepared with a delicious stuffing of prunes or apples. Turkey is the favorite food of the day in France, as it is in many English speaking countries. The southern Italians are fond of capitone, a dish of fried eels. For their main course they eat a fowl, usually stuffed turkey.

In many other lands fish dishes are served at Christmas. In Austria and Czechoslovakia Christmas dinners feature baked carp or some other fish.

In Norway and Sweden the meal may begin with potatoes. In Spain the Christmas meal includes a meat stew called a puchero olla.

Of all Christmas desserts, perhaps the most popular ones in England and America are plum pudding and mince pie. Superstition says that eating mince pie on Christmas brings good luck.

In many lands specially baked cakes are traditional, particularly rich cookies, fruitcake, and plum treats is begun weeks ahead of Christmas dinner. And the scent of tempting cakes and fancy cookies and candies drifts toward eager noses and giver away the secret of some of the surprises yet to come.

Christmas is a time of love just as we celebrate Christ birthday we also celebrate his love for us. Christmas is a time for loving one another, remember it is not the price of the gift you give that is so important, but the love in the gift you give. Give the gift of love to your family this year.

Have a JOYOUS Christmas

John Hubbard

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## For Sale

Commodore 1084S Monitor.....\$125.00  
Commodore Disk Drive.....\$ 50.00  
Air Products Disk Drive.....\$ 50.00  
42mb HD w/IDE Board 2mg Mem.....\$195.00  
Supra 500RX Ram Expansion.2mg.....\$ 79.00  
If interested.....Call John Hubbard 345-1934

## Editor's Note

By Larry Briggs

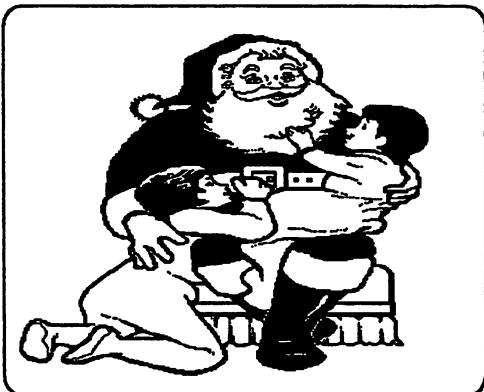
First, I want to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas.

I will not be at our Christmas party as I'm going to Las Vegas to see my grand daughter and my two Great grandsons, one, I have not seen before. While I'm there I may take in a show or two, and drop in a few nickels in the one arm bandits, who knows, I may win a few bucks. By that last remark, you can see that I'm not a gambler.

Another Commodore Amiga user quit the Amiga and went IBM. This seems to be the trend now that Commodore is not supporting the local Amiga dealers. A few years ago we had a choice where we wanted to buy Commodore hardware or software, now we must drive many miles to shop, and then, what you want is not in stock and the dealer is not sure if they can get it from Commodore. It has forced us to shop mail order and that is not always successful. It is so easy to go to the nearest store in the mall and purchase anything in the MS-DOS line. Little wonder that Commodore is losing Customers.

I can remember when we could buy commodore products at any discount store, I bought my first C64 at Sears. If Commodore would put their A1200's in the mall stores they would get back in the publics eye. So much for that

. Merry Christmas.



## HI-LO Formats

By Phil Anderson

After getting a lot of questions on disk formats, I decided that it was high time to clear the air. The results I got did not actually provide the final answers, but do show the general lay of the land. While investigating, I was struck by the difference between the 5 1/4" and 3 1/2" disks. So, they will be discussed separately. (Note, the unconditional and size switches were used for formatting on HD drives [Format (dn); /u /f;(size)] to avoid the error messages and problems caused by DOS reading the disk.)

5 1/4" DSDD disks. Most high quality DSDD (360K) disks can be formatted at 1.2M. They can be written to. All will seem OK until one tries to recover the data stored on them. It may be that the disk substrate is too thin to prevent write through by the higher recording flux, or that the media is simply not ridged enough to provide the necessary positional accuracy. Whatever the cause, the data, while appearing to be present will be corrupt. Data recorded on DSDD disks, formatted at 360K on a HD drive are reliable on a HD drive, and can sometimes be read by a DSDD drive. The half-height DSDD drive I have will not read them, but the old, full height, IBM drives that I have, will.

Any attempt to write to a HD formatted DSDD disk by a DSDD drive destroys all data on the disk. 360K disks, formatted on a DSDD drive can be written to and read by either kind of drive, without difficulty. The rules: 1. Never format a DSDD disk at 1.2 Megabytes. 2. If a 360K disk is to be used by DSDD and HD drives, format it in a DSDD drive, 3. Never attempt to write to a HD formatted disk with a DSDD drive.

5 1/4" HD disks. 5 1/4" HD disks can be formatted at 360K by HD drive. There is little reason to do this, since they can only be read by some DSDD drives, and any attempt to write to them with a DSDD drive will corrupt all data on the disk. HD disks cannot usually be formatted by DSDD drives. Insufficient recording flux. Only one rule here: Don't attempt to use 5 1/4"

HD disks with DSDD drives at all.

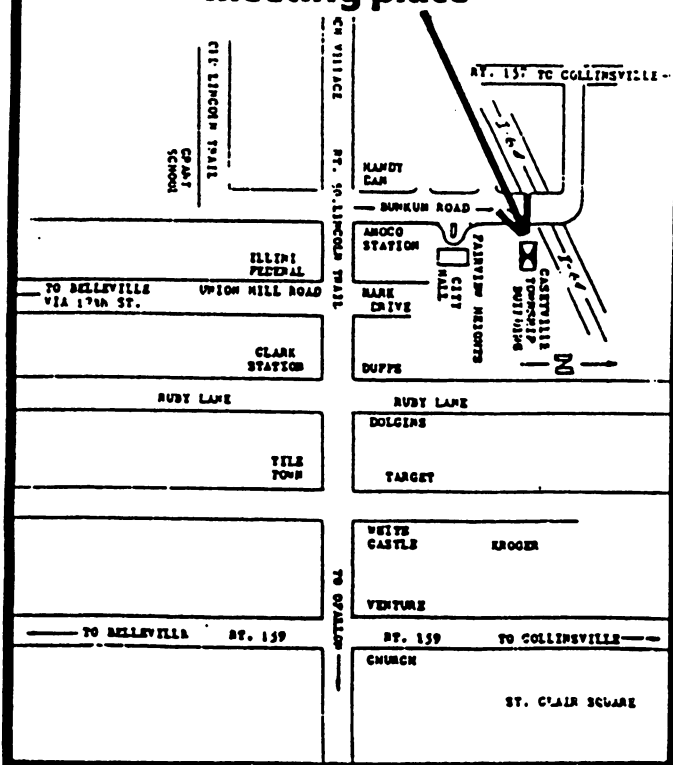
3 1/2" DSDD (720K) disks. Normally, DSDD 3 1/2" disks cannot be formatted at 1.44 Megabytes, even with the unconditional format, because they do not have the HD write enable hole in them. The HD drive checks for this. Opinions vary on the value of punching the hole-mark on a 720K disk, and then formatting it HD. It DOES work, but some say that long-term storage on punched 720K disks, at 1.44 Megabytes, is not good. The 720K that I punched for testing was a nondescript budget disk, and it worked fine. After a DSDD disk has been punched and formatted 1.44 Megabytes, it can be easily restored to 720K format by putting a small sticker, like a write protect, over the punched hole, on the BOTTOM of the disk, and reformatting at 720K with the unconditional format. 720K, DSDD disks are read-write compatible on DSDD and HD drives, regardless of which type drive they are formatted on. Rules: Only one. 720K disks must have no 1.44M write enable hole to work on a HD drive.

3 1/2" HD (1.44M) disks. Normally, These disks are used at 1.44M, but they can be formatted to 720K by covering the bottom of a sticker, and using the unconditional format. The resulting disk is read-write compatible with a DSDD (720K) drive, however, some DSDD drives may have insufficient recording flux to write to the disk. (Mine had no problems.) These disks may be returned to 1.44M service by removing the sticker and formatting them at 1.44Meg with the unconditional format.

To speed up the formatting process when using DOS 5 or higher, by eliminating the checking of existing format and saving of unformat data, I use the following four batfiles. (The %} allows a system disk to be created in drive a: by adding /s.)  
FORMAT.BAT rem format 1.2meg in a: format a:/u /f:1.2 %1  
FORMATAL.BAT rem format 360K in a: format a: /u /f:360 %1  
FORMATB.BAT rem format 1.44 meg in b: format b: /u /f:1.44  
FORMATAL.BAT rem format 720K in b: format b: /u /f:720

Reprint from the newsletter of the Harrisburg Area Computer Group

## Gateway Computer Club meeting place



## GCC Directory

### Next Meeting:

December 15th 1993 7:00pm

### Next Exec. Bd. Meeting:

Jan. 5th 1994 at 7:00pm  
At the Western Sizzlin  
Fairview Heights Il.

### Next Copy Session:

AT ALL REGULAR MEETINGS

### Visitors Always Welcome

### At Meetings

Meetings are held the third Wednesday of every month at the Caseyville Township Hall, 10010 Bunkum Road in Fairview Heights



**GATEWAY COMPUTER CLUB**  
P.O. Box 1839  
Fairview Heights, IL 62208



Check your dues date!

# First Class